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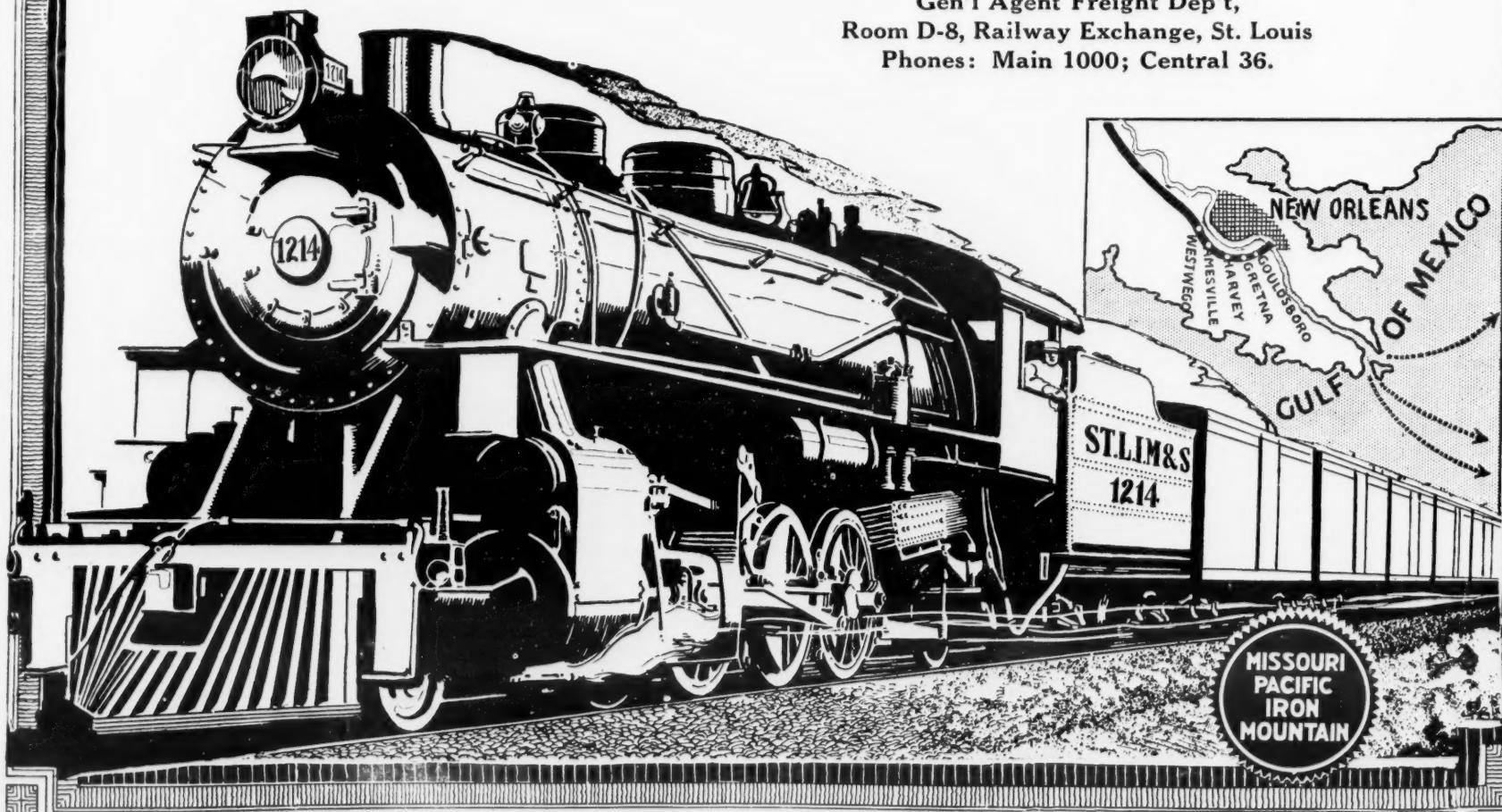
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WILLIAM M. REEDY, Editor and Proprietor.

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Poor Old St. Louis!

By W. M. R.

STRANGERS in St. Louis who of late have witnessed the spectacle of reputable people dining at the restaurants and cafes with uniformed policemen inspecting their personnel, making inquiries as to whether ladies were escorted by gentlemen or were drinking and eating by themselves, and taking notes of the proportions of eatables and potables on the tables before the diners, are hardly to be blamed if they leave the city with the impression that this is a "jay" or a "pinhead" town. This new custom of dining under police surveillance is one disgusting result of the system of laws which deprive this city of home rule with regard to matters of police and excise regulation.

For some time it has been generally known in St. Louis that the enforcement of the liquor laws had been extensively relaxed, that restaurants and cafes served liquors at times when the establishments could not be legally in operation. The law against selling liquor on Sundays was evaded by serving drinks in coffee cups or in teapots, or otherwise. Ministers of the gospel and other reformers made loud protest against this, but the Excise Commissioner and the Police Department and the Governor of the State, who appointed the Excise Commissioner and the Police Commissioners, made indignant denial that these law violations were going on. A few weeks since, just before the meeting of the State Democratic convention, it developed that the Excise Commissioner was to be a candidate for the position of National Democratic Committeeman and that those political forces which could be rallied by the saloon element were to be solidly behind this official in his aspirations. Involved in the Excise Commissioner's candidacy for National Committeeman was the candidacy of Governor Major for the nomination for Vice-President. It was soon apparent that the St. Louis delegation to the State convention would cast a solid vote in support of both these political propositions. Now the ministers of the gospel became active in the investigation of conditions under the excise laws and accumulated an imposing mass of evidence to prove that the "lid," under which the city had been smothering since Governor Folk's election in 1904, was so badly tilted that it might be said to be off altogether.

Armed with these facts the ministers went to the State convention at St. Joseph and presented them effectively before the country delegates to that gathering. Immediately there arose such a rural denunciation of St. Louis liquor dominance of the Democratic party in the interests of the Excise Commissioner and the Governor, that it was made plain to the leaders of the party that it was highly probable the convention would pass resolutions denouncing the Governor and his appointees for the manipulation of the liquor vote in the largest city of the State in furtherance of their political ambitions. The anti-liquor sentiment was so strong that it seemed likely to be able to defeat an endorsement of the Governor's candidacy for Vice-President unless something was done in the way of repudiation of the mobilization of the booze forces for the control of the party's action. The Governor's Excise Commissioner thereupon sacri-

ficed himself in the interest of the man who appointed him and withdrew from the race for National Committeeman. The Governor was endorsed for the Vice-Presidency. The endorsement was not very hearty; it was given solely that it might not be said the party refused a word of approval to its representative in the governorship.

Immediately after the Governor secured his endorsement he issued an order to the Police Commissioners and the Excise Commissioner for a drastic enforcement of the liquor laws. These liquor laws were the ones which he had said, prior to the convention, were not being violated. At once the police became violently busy and gathered in enough offenders within a few days to prove conclusively every contention made by the ministerial reformers. The liquor men were indignant that they should be thus treated after having delivered the political goods in the St. Joseph convention to the Governor and his appointees. They had been told that liquor law enforcement was going to be eased up and that the party would see to it that they should no longer be subjected to harrassment. The results of the police activity made plain at once that, for some time past, the lid imposition had been "more honored in the breach than in the observance." It was not enough, however, that liquor dealers, who were cheating the law by selling drinks at times when the law said they should not do so, were suddenly closed down when they were under the impression they were to run unmolested, but the authorities set to work to enforce the law in a manner most odious to the decent citizenship of the town. The police were sent to the restaurants and cafes to supervise the dining of the patrons and to make those diners feel that they were enjoying themselves in an illegal, not to say a disreputable, manner. The wave of resentment that swept over the city when this form of police supervision was instituted will not soon subside. The community justly feels that it is being humiliated solely that the Administration may ingratiate itself with the anti-liquor sentiment out in the State by a rigorous enforcement of the law, after that Administration had profited to the largest possible extent by the support of the elements in St. Louis in whose interest the enforcement of the law had been abandoned. The Governor and his St. Louis appointees stand convicted of having made a plaything of the law and of having insulted and revolted the decent people of this community. Decent people and indecent people were suddenly put upon the same footing solely that the Administration might show itself to be upon the side of virtue. Law enforcement was intensified in rigor in order to wipe out the memory of law suspension. Needless to say, such official action can only bring the law into contempt. If the liquor laws can be suspended by a Governor whenever he needs the liquor vote for any of his political purposes, and if again it may be enforced with a Lacedamonian rigor when he wants to convince the prohibitionists of the rural regions that he is "with them to a finish," it is fairly clear to the person of ordinary Missourian intelligence that this is a government not of laws, but of men.

The people of St. Louis do not complain about the enforcement of the law. They do complain, and very justly, that the Governor and his minions ignore the law when it benefits their political ambitions and enforce the law

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when those ambitions have been achieved or can be further advanced by such action. This state of affairs in which the officials of the State play off the reputable against the disreputable of the community when either one class or the other may seem to be useful to the officials, is an abomination. In no other city of the country have the laws and the people been so contemptibly, atrociously and intolerably made the mere instrumentalities of the varying private purposes of the elected officers of the commonwealth.

The full story of this episode disseminated throughout the State of Missouri is very likely to result in the defeat of the Democratic State ticket, unless it should be headed by some man—let us say, Col. Fred D. Gardner—absolutely unidentified with the Administration that has perpetrated the outrage. It is inconceivable that the Democrats will be able to carry St. Louis in the next election unless they do something to make plain to the people that their candidate for Governor had no part or parcel in playing fast and loose with the law and the public for the securing of political personal advantage. What the Governor and his friends have done in St. Louis would not have been possible if the city had had home rule. And it will be remembered at the polls that the city would have had home rule if it had not been that the Democratic organization cooked up a referendum and defeated the home rule law when a Republican mayor was elected by the people. Not only politically is the State hurt by such performances, but it is hurt socially and commercially. What can the people of the rest of the country think of a town where a man cannot dine in public with his women-folks without having the *menu* at his table inspected by a uniformed policeman? How much more will this militate against the town's business interests when it is known that decent people are punished in this way solely that the Governor of the State may rehabilitate himself in the opinion of honest folks after he has been caught in the act of catering to law-breaking saloon elements in order to secure an endorsement of his candidacy for Vice-President and the choice of his Excise Commissioner as National Democratic Committeeman? "What's the matter with St. Louis?" Too much old-fashioned Missouri Democratic politics.

♦♦♦♦

Reflections

By William Marion Reedy

Hughes or Roosevelt or "Another"

COLLIER'S WEEKLY says of the coming presidential campaign, "The Republican nominee will be Hughes, Roosevelt or a third man." We know where and how Roosevelt stands on all the burning issues of this time. But who knows where or how Hughes stands? He has not said a word. Then who is the third man who is to be nominated only in the event that, at convention time, "President Wilson should seem very easy to beat?" The trouble is that President Wilson is not going to seem easy to beat at any time, and the harder he may seem to beat the less likely it is that he will be beatable by the Colonel who has antagonized, even more than Wilson, the elements whose defection is counted on to weaken Wilson. The Colonel will not get the pacifists who don't like Wilson. Nor will he captivate the so-called pro-Germans. And he himself could not have moved more quickly against Villa. "There are only two things Mr. Wilson is afraid of," says the Colonel; "the German Emperor and me." It seems to me that in a country that is glad to be out of war, the

easiest man to elect would be a man running simultaneously against William Hohenzollern and Theodore Roosevelt. Then who's the "other?" Root is out of the question. None of the old regular leaders incline to men like Cummins or La Follette. The leaders are going to name the man in the convention, even as of old, in spite of the presidential primary—which doesn't "prime"—at least not this year. Can it be Hadley, of Missouri, who led the Roosevelt forces against Taft in Chicago, in 1912, and received the votes, in the electoral college, that would have been cast for Sherman had he lived? Hadley is not objectionable to the Colonel; surely not to the opposition. If there was a Roosevelt-Root reconciliation at that recent dinner, what better basis for reconciliation than concentration upon Hadley, a Western man, a progressive who all but bolted, the man who brought Standard Oil to book? "Hughes or Roosevelt or another man," says *Collier's*. There is no "other," whether Wilson seems, in June next, hard or easy to beat, so available, so expedient to nominate as Herbert Spencer Hadley.

♦♦

Not Yet the Dove

MORE peace talk in Europe, say the cablegrams. And the peace talk is repudiated and denied at all the capitals of belligerents. Nobody in authority, evidently, is talking peace—not in the open, anyhow. But for all that, there must be something in the rumors. The strain is telling on all parties, but no party is in position either to make or accept terms. There is a constant recurrence of gossip about the Pope as peacemaker. It is said that he has terms from Germany; on the other hand it is said that Italy signed the Pact of London with the proviso that the Pope should not have a seat in the Peace Congress at the end of the war, if it ever does end. Italy cannot recognize the Papacy as a Power. But the *Nuovo Antologia* says a Peace Congress without the Pope will be "Hamlet" without the Dane. His Holiness should be there, not so much to help adjust matters between the present belligerents as to prevent the present allies on either side from falling out over the spoils. Present alignments are new. It's not so long, as history goes, since Italy was the ally of Germany and Austria, since Russia and Japan were at war, since Russia and France were hereditary foes of England, since England and France fought with Turkey. The present alignments will not be maintained by any inherent virtue in them. Victory will not assure the perpetuity of any of the present friendly pacts. We have but to recall what happened when the Balkan States defeated Turkey. The victors fell out among themselves. So there is no surety that Great Britain, France, Russia, Italy and Japan will be able to maintain their pact, or that Germany, Austria and Turkey will be the friends they are now. Which side soever wins or loses, there are elements that threaten peace after the big peace. There will be territory to be partitioned and it may be that the partitioning may turn allies into foes. It is no fanciful idea that the Pope, who does not want any territory, would be a disinterested party in the peace councils and therefore an influence for accommodation between the allies on either side in the event of any clash. It is not unimportant either that the Pope would make a splendid arbitrator because he has some millions of followers in each armed camp, in every nation involved. Benedict XV is probably a good neutral, since each side alternately claims him as its partisan and its antagonist. Evidently, though, he is not to be called upon to mediate for some time. Nor is President Wilson likely soon to be called to use his good offices. The war has not reached

that stage at which any set of allies can propose peace. Germany has not attained any of its objectives. But Germany holds Belgium, part of France and Russia and all of Serbia, while England has seized practically all of Germany's colonies. The British navy holds the seas. Germany is not beaten. Nor is any one of her foes. It is significant, however, that the British Minister of Munitions, Lloyd George, speaking in the Commons, and the German Minister of Commerce, speaking in the Landtag, have both declared against carrying over into commercial relations the spirit of revenge. The present enemies will have to live and trade together and there will be no room for *Schrecklichkeit* in business exchange. The business elements in the warring countries are getting anxious to resume business. There are queries in all parliaments about peace. Evidently peace thoughts are stirring in the minds of the peoples. So far, none of the peoples concerned has given up hope of a decisive, smashing victory somewhere that will open the way to peace negotiations. Until that hope is either realized or dashed, all peace talk will be speculatively vague. Rulers may have made the war. The people will make the peace. They may also make-over some governments, incidentally. I have not a doubt that the rulers of every country at war would jump at peace if they had anything worth while to show the people as having been gained as a result of the war. And there is no doubt either that Premier Asquith talked of peace last week at the Vatican, or that President Wilson has had some peace intimations from Ambassador Gerard at Berlin.

♦♦

Oh, God!

BOMBING from Zeppelins and aeroplanes, and torpedoing from submarines are just about as humane as the ancient war policy of poisoning the wells. The more "modern" war becomes the more hellish it is. And to hear the monarchs of the fighting nations talking of God being with them in such work!

♦♦

Francis on the Nevsky Prospekt

SOME honest folks here in David R. Francis' own bailiwick believe that in his appointment as Ambassador to Russia he has been given a place that will cost him \$100,000 to maintain becomingly, and that all he will have to do will be to attend court functions in knee breeches and give and eat big dinners. If that were true, Mr. Francis would not have taken the place. He is not an idler or a dawdler, but a worker. He may like the spotlight a little, but he is not satisfied with formalities or frills. And there will be things for him to do that will be well worth doing. While he is a man of culture, he is a man of affairs, a business man. He will find in Russia a country of 170,000,000 people with whom this country can cultivate closer trade relations. The trade that Russia carried on with Germany will not be resumed for some time. Meanwhile, opportunity will offer to deflect that trade to the United States. Russia has been trading heavily here since the war began. That country will not soon be ready to rely upon a rival so near home as Germany. Once we had commercial treaties with Russia, but they were suspended half a decade ago as our form of protest against the Russian policy of subjecting the Jews to disabilities. There have been some signs that Russia will treat the Jews better. Proclamations of a sort of amnesty to Jews, made at the beginning of the war, were not wholly insincere. There is a good prospect of renewal of our treaties with Russia. Mr. Francis is a good trader and a deft harmonizer. He has not only business brains, but social graces.

And as President of a World's Fair, he learned something more than the superficialities of international relationships. There are to be vast issues of policy as to the trade of the Pacific, and Russia is no small part of that amorphously looming Eastern Question with which this nation has become involved. As a former United States Cabinet member, he knows much about world-politics and there will be a lot of world-politics to keep track of when he takes charge of the embassy at Petrograd. Needless to say, Mr. Francis is a good politician. His new job will not be all champagne and truffles. He will fulfill all the requirements of "making a front," but there will be plenty of hard work behind the fronting. The most important men in the business life of this country reckon Mr. Francis as one of themselves and they know that he will look after this country's business interests in the land of the Muscovite. As a thoroughgoing American democrat, he will stand out against those forms of proscription and persecution of which the Jews have been the victims in Russia. There is a tradition of especial friendship between Russia and the United States dating from the Alaska purchase and signalized by Russian sympathy during the Civil War. There are reasons why Russian friendship may be useful in certain contingencies having to do with our interests in the East. Our Ambassador will have to bear those contingencies in mind. He will not find much time for play in his new job. He will not be looking for it. Not for him any posing as a mere figurehead. He will do something for his country and probably for Russia, too. He sailed for his post yesterday. And when he is duly installed we shall be able to say no better man ever wore its honors or fulfilled its duties.

♦♦

As a political instrumentality fallen into innocuous desuetude before it was put in operation, how about the presidential primary?

♦♦

Railway Mail Pay

AGAIN the proposal to pay space rates rather than rate weight rates to the railroads for carrying the mail is before Congress, in the form of rider attached to the Post-Office Appropriation Bill. The railroads say that it means a lowering of their compensation: they oppose it. They say that the pay should be increased rather than decreased. In this they are supported by the report of a recent joint committee of Congress favoring a higher scale. As to the space rate, it is urged that it would be lower than that at which other merchandise is carried in freight cars, on a full carload basis. On the half or quarter-car basis, the rate, according to the railroads, would be little higher. The government says that the half or quarter-car space would be seldom filled, but the railroads say, with what seems to be truth, that the growth of the parcel post tends to increase stupendously the volume of mail matter. The rate would work out at about 1.15 cents per ton mile on the scale of space authorization by the postal department. Mail increase is certain to demand more cars and more cars mean more expense in the handling of the miscellaneous matter composing the mail. Congressman Moon, who fathers the space rate measure, says that the railways sometimes get double or more pay for carrying the mail, by reweighing the material when it is diverted. He says the cost of carrying the mail has increased out of all proportion to the increase in the volume of mail. The railroads point out that mail is not carried as is other freight, that it goes in better cars, that it requires and receives better attention. To an outsider it seems that weight rate payment is better than space rate payment. It seems that weigh-

ing the mail would be simpler than measuring it by space, that weighing could be done better and under a more rigorous supervision or the process. If there is anything in the claim of the roads that general freight rates are too low, as against increasing cost of handling, the Government should not lower rates on its freight, which has a preference in its transportation. Just why the findings of the joint committee of Congress in favor of a higher scale of pay should be set aside and ignored, is hard to understand. Of course, there is the whisper that the committee was "fixed," but "fixing" is not so easy as it was in days gone by, and the fixing of a whole committee composed of men of character is improbable. The railroads have a good case for their contentions concerning mail pay. The postal department's case is one for less pay, and it is not weak, but the railroads go into closer detail as to the peculiar nature of the mail business, the requirements of its handling, the variations in bulk, in weight, in substance, its carriage in better cars, its special forwarding and so forth. The railroads should not be given the worst of it, simply because they are the railroads, and it, as asserted, there have been weighing frauds in the past, the remedy is not to underpay the roads now, but to supervise the weighing so closely that fraud will not be possible.

♦♦

Pork, Preparedness, Socialism

THERE can be "pork" even in preparedness. Congressmen want navy yards and government munitions and army supply factories in their districts, if they can get them. So far as concerns government munitions factories, it is dubious that they would be the right thing. They could not be run all the time during peace, piling up munitions. The accumulation would be a burden very soon. What the government could better do would be to arrange with the proprietors of factories for the manufacture of other things, for a transformation of those establishments at short notice into munitions factories. A Government organization could keep track of advancement and changes in the nature of munitions and have the data ready for use by private factories in case of emergency. At least there should not be more than two or three government munitions plants to provide a supply for emergency, to keep abreast of new discoveries and inventions, to supply specifications and models to transformable private factories in case of a need for such vast, rapid production as modern war requires. So it was that factories were turned from peace-products to war-products in Germany. Government shipyards are not to be condemned, but such shipyards have been mismanaged scandalously. Government manufacture of big guns would not certainly assure the best guns, if our experience of governmental manufacturing goes for anything.

It is right that, if possible, the profit should be taken out of war, to prevent armor and gun and shell makers inciting war, but if we are to have a huge multiplication of government employes in war manufactures, in addition to an increase in the army and navy, we shall have a tremendously strong interest in the country favoring "starting something" to keep the works going. It will be easier, I think, to check agitation for war if we leave war profits to individuals. It is easier to work up the public against the profits of such private manufacturers than to make headway against a large element of government officials and employes interested in bringing on conditions in which that element's importance shall be exalted into indispensability. We can "get at" the Du Ponts easier, more effectively, than we can at Government plants manned by

members of trades unions affiliated with the American Federation of Labor, with its powerful vote. The people could more easily prevent an access of militarism or navalism if their antagonism were directed against privately owned shipbuilding yards, than against government-owned yards. I am not impressed by the government's taking over of everything in Great Britain, as a thing wholly desirable. It does not prove to me the virtue of Socialism. It proves only that Socialism is a desperate remedy in an abnormal crisis, in a breakdown of the peaceful civil order. It was necessary in England because there was absolutely no civil co-ordination or rational compromise between individualism and socialization. Its war-efficacy, to my thinking, is against, rather than in favor of, Socialism by wholesale. It were well for us, in my opinion, that in striking at war profits for the capitalist class, we should not set up a system, the tendency of which will be to create an interest and a profit in war for a much larger class. Likewise, I fail to see that it will be a good thing to go in for preparedness by giving preference in the civil service to all men who have had six years' military service, upon certification by their commanding officers. This would be setting the military power over the civil power with a vengeance. We can have preparedness without surrendering all our individualism in this country, without going in for a militaristic Socialism. We can get an army without conscription, if we pay for it. Great Britain got 4,000,000 volunteers before she tried conscription. We can afford to pay more for an army nucleus because the standard of living is higher here. It is just as well to remember that the case is not wholly made for the socialistic element in German preparedness. It has not won the war. And in so far as Great Britain has gone in for Socialism in the war crisis, we must bear in mind that she has not wholly thrown over the system of private enterprise. Great Britain's navy was prepared, because every Englishman saw the need for preparation as to that. Its efficiency is based on voluntarism. I am for preparedness, but not for militaristic Socialism, not for taking private profit out of war by creating a governing and working class with a definite special interest in war and preparation for war. Preparedness for defense is the desideratum; not preparedness for aggression.

♦♦

THE literacy test to debar immigrants has passed the House. And yet there is nothing more certain than that education is not a guarantee of morality. Illiterate criminals are not the worst. If we shut out the illiterate immigrant, why not disfranchise the illiterate native voter?

♦♦

The Threatened Railway Strike

BETWEEN the demands of the workers on the railroads and the reply of the railroad managers who shall say confidently where lies right? Undoubtedly the public does not relish the prospect of a great strike. The people are tired of turmoil and strife. They do not want a paralysis of transportation when business is reviving. That the railroads have been pretty well disciplined by misfortune is quite generally believed. They have had poor business. They have made advances in wages. They have been denied permission to increase rates. Their expenses have been swollen by conforming to national and state regulations. They need, but cannot get, money for extensions and improvements. They have made many and costly concessions to organized labor. Now comes this organized labor with a demand for a pay scale on the basis of an eight-hour day. The establishment of the shorter day unit will mean an enormous in-

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crease of the pay-roll. In railroading, the eight-hour day may end with a train but a short distance from its destination. The train cannot be left where it is when the day is done. The crew must take it in, and receive time-and-a-half pay until the destination is reached, or a new crew must be put on, which is not always practicable, for a full day's pay. The demand for a shorter day means only an added expense to the railroads. The workers will have to work just about as long as they do now. To all this the workers say the railroads can easily speed up their trains to conform to the shorter day. The trains can be adjusted in travel to an eight-hour day as they have been to a ten-hour day. This may be so, but the railroads say the shorter day will cost them and the public \$100,000,000 per year. The unions say that the cost will not be so much increased over the lines; the increase of pay will fall on the operation of railroad yards and on local switching and such things. Between these assertions and contentions the layman is hopelessly confused. One thing he knows, however, that prejudices him against the workers: the demands are made just as the railroads are recovering from hard times and when a great national election impends. Prosperity is thereby imperilled and political influences catering to the labor vote will be brought into play to turn the scale against the railroads. But even that could be discounted if we could only be sure of the facts. Every fact brought forward by either side is denied by the other. And the same statistics are used to prove the case for each party to the controversy.

Naturally, the citizen looks to arbitration as the means of avoiding a great strike. Arbitration will take time, and time thus taken means lost wages to the workers. There is not much assurance that arbitration will avail if the decision be against the workers. They cannot be coerced into an acceptance of an award or decision against them. The railroads can be so coerced by dread of political action designed to curry favor with the labor vote. If there were a way to enforce the decision of arbitrators, that would be well, but there is none. President Roosevelt coerced the anthracite operators some years ago, with a threat to run the mines with government labor, but it is doubtful if that would "go" again. Still, arbitration, even without power to enforce the decision of the arbiters, holds out some hope that a general railroad strike may be averted. It is worth trying. About March 1st an arbitration was enforced in Denmark between some 85,000 workers and their employers. But the Danes have compulsory arbitration such as exists in New Zealand and in Australia. The State arbitrator of Denmark had to deal with a threatened strike and a threatened lock-out. The strike in Denmark was for better wages, for a share in the profits in the great business created by the war. In that respect it was not unlike the strike now threatened here, if the railroads and their employes cannot reach an agreement in thirty days. We have no governmental power of compulsion. There is nothing but public opinion, and public opinion is "woozy" on the issue because it gets nothing on the subject but overheated, one-sided statements, because the railroads are "unpopular," because labor's side has all the "sob-stuff," because railroad managements or, rather, financial directors, have committed so many sins that anything that goes against them is reckoned as retributive justice. The railroad managers would seem to be at a disadvantage, all things considered.

And yet people who try to be fair realize that if the present dispute goes to the extreme of a great railroad strike, the results

will be calamitous. There are too many busted railroads now. If the systems are tied up, the country's business will come to a standstill. Merchants and manufacturers and consumers will suffer. Labor itself will lose wages it will never recover. The country is heavily dependent on the railroads. If they make the concessions their workers demand, and that concession will cost what the railroads say it will cost, the roads will have to get better rates for their services. If they cannot increase rates, the pay-roll will eat into their profits and there will be no earnings to justify investment in their securities for expansion and repairs. More railroads in the hands of receivers mean nothing good for labor. A strike just now on the railroads would be a national disaster, from which labor would not be exempt. Organized labor is a mighty power, of course, but it is not supreme. The railroads are a mighty power, too, but they have been chastened of late years. Organized labor is, as we say, somewhat "cocky," and the public, broadly speaking, would like to chasten that power and pride, too. It is possible that a court of arbitration composed of men of unimpeachable disinterestedness could render such a judgment as between both parties as neither party could afford to refuse to abide by. An arbitration is imperative in fact. The country cannot tolerate the all or nothing on the one side and the other. The public wants industrial peace and will back up arbitration that is demonstrably fair.

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Brandeis

LOUIS D. BRANDEIS is opposed for the Supreme Bench by a goodly number of members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary. The ground of the opposition is so vague that it amounts to little more than "I do not like thee, Dr. Fell." He is opposed because of his "temperament." Or because he appeared for Glavis against Ballinger, his fee being paid by *Collier's Weekly*. Or because as a Government attorney he admitted the railroads needed more revenue but wanted to get it in the wrong way. Or because he got between the wind and the nobility of some of the cerulian-stomached leaders of the Boston bar. No definite unethical thing is established against Mr. Brandeis. If he should be rejected on such flimsy hints, such accusations as hardly rise above innuendo or insinuation—on suspicion we may say—there will be little doubt in some minds that the unexpressed objection to him is that he is a Jew who has effectively fought privilege.

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Soaking St. Louis on Taxes

MISSOURI'S State Board of Equalization, having heard committees representing the Board of Aldermen, the Real Estate Exchange, and the Business Men's League of St. Louis, asking for an adjustment of taxation in this city which would do away with the excessive burden imposed upon this community as compared with the other counties in the State, declined, a few days ago, either to reduce the St. Louis valuation or to raise those in the country in fixing the final assessments. This board is composed of the present Secretary of State, the State Auditor, the Attorney-General, the State Treasurer and the Governor—all Democrats, all politicians and all ruralists. They constitute a tax commission, of a kind, and certainly their action is not a demonstration of the contention that a tax commission will remedy the evils of the Missouri tax system. Though the representatives of St. Louis were courteously treated while they were being heard, the decision against their plea was given in short order and without any adequate explanation or jus-

tification. The representations made by the delegation from St. Louis were absolutely incontrovertible. They showed that the provision of the law requiring uniformity in taxation were utterly ignored in assessments, and they proved as well that it was absurd to suppose that the increase in the taxable values of the city of St. Louis within the last few years was tremendously in excess of the increase of values in the remainder of the State. There was no question whatever that property is assessed in some of the counties at as low as ten per cent of its value, while the assessments in St. Louis range as high as seventy per cent of the value. The farmers of farmers on the State Board of Equalization heard the complaints of the St. Louisans with politely concealed impatience. They made no answer whatever to the city's charges, except that they declared that they believed the real estate in the State at large is assessed as high in proportion to value as the real estate in the city of St. Louis. This is in direct opposition to the most conclusive presentation of facts to the contrary. As the *Globe-Democrat* says, "Records of deeds, the census reports, appraisals by loan companies and the judgment of real estate men, bankers, merchants, and even county assessors, all bore out the charge of gross inequality." It is a matter of plain figures that the aggregate increase in the assessments upon farm lands and real estate in the country outside of St. Louis since 1906 was approximately 25 per cent, while in the same period the assessments upon real estate in St. Louis increased 34 per cent. No sane person will imagine that there is any such difference in the increase of value between the city and the country. The increase in assessments upon St. Louis real estate this year is \$32 per capita, while the increase approved upon the remainder of the State is about \$6 per capita. The assessed valuation of St. Louis real estate this year is \$516,500,340, while for the remainder of the State the approved taxable valuation is \$801,613,642. The St. Louis real estate valuation is over 60 per cent of the total of the entire State. If these figures will not convince the ordinary man who reads the newspapers of a discrimination against this city, no amount of elaborate argument could do so. The *Globe-Democrat* uses the proper word in describing the remarks of the members of the State Board of Equalization as "pettifogging." The sense of justice and the knowledge of economics on the part of the board is indicated in the quoted remark of State Auditor Gordon that this city's real estate valuations were not reduced because the board believed that much personal property in St. Louis escapes taxation. This convicts Gordon and the board of violation of their oaths of office. He is sworn to execute the law, and the law says that all property shall be equally taxed for State purposes. To tax St. Louis real estate heavier than the real estate in other sections because of the escape of personal property here is an exercise of punitive power which the law does not give to Mr. Gordon and his equalization associates. Reading all that has been printed about the action of the State Board of Equalization, must convince anyone that the members in dealing with the tax assessments of the whole State have simply followed the old tradition of rural politicians that "anything goes with the people that soaks St. Louis." All these officeholders are more or less interested in an approaching political campaign. They are either candidates themselves or the advocates and supporters of other candidates. They want to stand solid with the rural vote. There is no better way in which they can do this than to throw out of court the just complaint of the people of the greatest city in the State.

These politicians cater to the farmer by lowering his taxes and increasing the taxes of the city man. The result of the attempt of St. Louisans to secure justice is a demonstration of the fact that the city has no hope of such a thing so long as the present method of equalization prevails. It should convince anybody that the whole process of equalization should be done away with. The sources of State and local revenue should be absolutely separated. Those sources should be such properties as would yield a tax sufficient for the needs of the State without encroaching at all upon other properties which might be taxed for purely local purposes. A State tax at a definite amount upon a definite classification of property should be levied in all the political subdivisions of the State, and then there would be no need whatever for equalization. We should not then have property taxed at one rate in one county and at another rate in another county, and we should not have a number of counties of the State drawing more money from the public treasury than they yield to the State revenue. So long as the duty of equalization is committed to politicians elected to State offices, so long will the political predilections and necessities of those politicians influence their action upon the annual assessments. So long as there is no fixed rate of taxation upon a fixed classification of properties, so long will the sliding scale be in use and so long will the equalizers hide behind that scale to accomplish their purpose of capturing the rural vote by keeping down the rural taxes. Unless the Constitution be revised in order to get rid of the present system, there will be no relief. It is to laugh to read the *Globe-Democrat* to the effect that the way to remedy the present injustice is to elect Republicans to those offices the occupants of which are *ex-officio* members of the State Board of Equalization. There is no difference between Republicans and Democrats in the State of Missouri when it comes to taking just burdens off the rural population and unloading them unjustly upon the people of the city. They all do it. The discussion of the tax situation in the State should have at least one good effect: it should start people to thinking about the fundamentals of taxation. Once the people get to thinking, and thinking straight, on this question, the whole taxation system will be doomed. The net result of all the excitement, so far as things are concerned at present is that the members of the State Board of Equalization will be able to go out in the counties and tell the rubes how they "put it over the city folks" and how they "eased up on the honest farmers." But later, the people of State and city will surely see that the thing to tax is the thing that cannot be hidden, the thing that no individual can own because it is created by everybody—land value. If there's no hope of St. Louis escaping its present overwhelming share of the burden through the operation of law, it may become necessary to take action looking to the secession of St. Louis from Missouri and its incorporation as a city-state. Secession is not so unpopular in Missouri anyhow.

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The Single Term

CONGRESSMAN WARREN WORTH BAILEY, of Pennsylvania, has introduced a joint resolution for an amendment of the Constitution providing for a six-year term for the President, his election by direct vote and his ineligibility for re-election. Mr. Bailey says the resolution represents Mr. Bryan's ideas on the subject. Mr. Bryan held that the Baltimore convention's resolution pledged Mr. Wilson, in the absence of a constitutional amendment, not to a single term but to the principle of

the single term. Mr. Bryan believed at Baltimore, and believes now, the term should be increased if the incumbent be ineligible to succeed himself. It is hard to see how the Democrats in House and Senate can refuse to put the Baltimore principle in National practice, so far as they can.

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An Event in Music

IN the world of music-lovers, it seems to me, more than merely casual notice should be taken of an event that is to take place at Alton next Wednesday evening. Then and there will be given Mendelssohn's oratorio "St. Paul," by the Dominant Ninth Chorus of that little city on a hill. The occasion will mark the completion of the twenty-fourth year of the society and of the directorship of Mrs. Charles B. Rohland. In that time the chorus has given the best there is in music of the kind for choral exposition. And the renditions have been characterized by the most artistic effects. The work of the director has been such as to demonstrate not alone a fine and high devotion to music, but a genius for evocative leadership in the expressive interpretation of the heart of group singing. In that small town a great work has gone on—a work that has been the coining into an art effort of a woman's life. Twenty-four years Mrs. Rohland has wrought in the service of beauty and wielded an organization whose concerts have displayed an informing grace and passion and intelligence of direction not surpassed in the work of choruses of wider renown. Place, exalted place in the history of American music for Mrs. Rohland and The Dominant Ninth, of Alton. Next Wednesday evening's concert should be of a national, rather than a local or even sectional, significance to the confraternity of music and song, and it should not pass without some adequate expression of recognition of the splendid and anything but parochial service to the most direct of arts rendered by the woman who has inspired and led the Dominant Ninth for almost a quarter of a century. The "St. Paul" will be given with the St. Louis orchestra and with the following soloists: Mrs. A. I. Epstein, St. Louis, soprano; Mrs. Rose L. Gannon, of Chicago, alto; Mr. Clark Shipp, of Chicago, tenor, and Mr. La Rue Boals, of New York, basso.

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A Great St. Louis Woman

MISS SUSAN BLOW deserves lasting remembrance by St. Louis. It was owing to her that in the now long ago this city was the first of the larger municipalities to adopt the kindergarten system of teaching children. She impressed upon the mind of Prof. William T. Harris, then Superintendent of Schools, the beauty and utility of the Froebelian plan of early mind development. The lead this city's schools took in that form of child training, it has kept ever since. We have never had here a philanthropist whose work has been of such widespread, permanent effect in social and cultural betterment. No man has ever done so much, no man's work has ever gone so deep here as the work of the little woman whose death was announced week before last. It was men, indeed, who went into the courts and fought the kindergarten as an unconstitutional excrescence upon the authorized school curriculum. The schools could take up the education of children only at the age of six years. It was unlawful to teach anything to children under that age. And it was a long time before the kindergarten was made legal. St. Louis would not give up its kindergartens now for any consideration. Miss Blow served for many years, mostly without pay, the institution she inaugurated. She lived to see the kindergarten idea applied in various ways to education in the higher grades, and it was

not a little due to the inspiration of her achievement that Prof. Calvin M. Woodward began the work which resulted in the establishment of the Manual Training School of Washington University.

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"Wait and See"

THE real news about the expedition in pursuit of Villa is mighty slim. The censorship seems to promote lies and multiply rumors in the press. Already premature boasting of certain officers for promotion is in evidence. Send that we shall not have another such exhibition as the abuse of Shafter, the wrangle over honors between Sampson and Schley, in the expedition against Cuba. In the words of Premier Asquith, let us "wait and see," meanwhile hoping that we get Pancho soon and that we won't get otherwise more than we bargained for.

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An "Ad" from "The Pen"

HERE'S where I "get in bad" with one J. Jeroboam Sullivan, Business Manager—printing straight advertising for nothing. But how can I help it? A letter comes to me from a man in the State Penitentiary at Lansing, Kansas. It gives me honeyed words about myself: that goes as it lays, for what it's worth. It is the customary method of approach. He tells me he has reason to believe that I am "among those who still regard men behind the bars as human beings, without looking for cloven hoofs and horns." I'm willing to be counted that way. Then the writer proceeds: "There is a parole in the making for me within the near future, and if you feel like giving me a lift by inserting the enclosed copy with such changes as you deem to its advantage, I shall rise up and call you blest. With a little editorial comment on this by you, and by presenting this appeal to the class of readers into whose hands the MIRROR gets, I believe that I may succeed in making some good and lasting connections. To weep over the past helps no one; to prove through my future mode of living that I have benefited from the lessons my wrongs have taught me, is, I believe, reformation in the *n*th degree." This letter "listens good" to me. I shall "go him once." Here is his advertisement and may it prove a result-getter:

RES. NON VERBA.

OFFENSE:	Forgery.
PLEA:	Guilty.
PENALTY:	Stript of honor, liberty and quondam friends.
RESULT:	Past dead as Babylon. Life re-coined in prison. Character strengthened in life's tumult. Individuality and ambition unimpaired.
EDUCATION:	College. Extensive world-travel. Conversant with European languages. Unmarried. Age, thirty-five (35).
QUALIFICATIONS:	High-grade, successful salesmanship (securities and insurance); also experienced in secretarial and free-lance newspaper work.
FUTURE:	Determined to make good in position where integrity, efficiency and tact are the blocks on which to build to-morrow's success.

In this unconventional manner I offer my services to such generous-spirited, but non-mercenary, readers of REEDY'S MIRROR as are willing to accept me for what I am now and value me for what I can do when released from prison on parole within the near future, and who, incidentally, are users of services meriting a remuneration of ten thousand dollars per annum. Please direct communications to Forty-eight-Ninety-seven (4897); Box 2, Lansing, Kansas.

REEDY'S MIRROR

Pellagra and Poverty

By W. M. R.

PELLAGRA has become a frightful word in this country. It is the name of a disease that was not known here ten years ago. Upon its first appearance it was thought to be an importation from Italy. European physicians have known it for two centuries. Now we are told that it is "mastered"—but is it? The scientists tell us that more than seventy-five hundred people will die of the disease this year; nearly as many as will die of typhoid fever and about three-fourths of the mortality from diphtheria. Nearly sixteen hundred people died of it in Mississippi last year and more people die of it annually in South Carolina than from any disease except tuberculosis. In 1909 there were only one thousand cases in sixteen States. In 1912 there were from 30,000 to 35,000 cases in thirty-nine States. These figures are said to be conservative. Some estimates for 1912 placed the number of cases at 50,000. The disease is not only maintaining its virulence but is extending its area. It flourishes in North and South Carolina, Tennessee, Georgia, Alabama and Mississippi. Now it has spread to Texas, Oklahoma and Arkansas. It seems to have an affinity for the soil of the Southern States. There are occasional cases farther north. There have been quite a number of cases in Illinois and that State has organized a special commission to investigate it.

All these facts we learn from a thrilling article entitled, "The Mastery of Pellagra," by Burton J. Hendrick, in the current issue of *The World's Work*. This disease has for ages prevailed in certain parts of Italy, France, Spain, Austria, the Balkan States, Egypt and other countries. Its chief manifestations are eruptions on the back of the hand, the feet, the neck and other exposed surfaces, and its most distressing consequence is the insanity which so frequently marks its terminal stage. The theory first held about this disease was that it came from eating mouldy Indian corn. This theory did not hold for long when the disease appeared here, because there is more corn raised and eaten in this country than anywhere in the world, but pellagra was an unknown disease a decade ago. Sir William Osler, in 1906, and Sir Patrick Manson, in 1907, pointed out that the absence of this corn-caused disease in a corn country demolished the discovery by Lombroso that the affliction came from some poison in the corn.

According to Mr. Hendrick's article, the experiments conducted by the United States public health service under the direction of Dr. Joseph Goldberger have resulted in certain discoveries by means of which the mystery of pellagra will be solved as to its origin and, of course, its prevention and cure. The most important thing that has been discovered about the disease, the one thing upon which all the authorities agree, is that "pellagra, like tuberculosis, is a disease of poverty." Well-to-do people sometimes contract it, but it flourishes only among the unhygienic conditions which prevail among the poor. In Italy, the half-starved peasants are its victims; in this country it affects chiefly those classes that suffer from hookworm. The Illinois Pellagra Commission discovered that an improvement in diet exercised a beneficial effect upon all cases. The dietaries of Illinois hospitals were low in animal protein; that is to say, the inmates ate little meat, eggs, milk or fish. Pellagra patients whose dietary was reinforced by animal foods improved. The commission thought that the disease was an infectious one and that poor nutrition was only a predisposing factor. A poorly-fed body more easily falls a victim to it as to other diseases. Other experiments on pellagrins from South Carolina brought to New York had good results. These were all desperate cases. As soon as the victims were given plenty of rest and a variety of wholesome food, the pellagra disappeared. When they returned to their homes and resumed the old diet of sow belly, corn meal and molasses, pellagra reappeared.

The disease is frequently endemic in insane asy-

lums, orphanages and other places of like character. This seemed to support the theory of its contagiousness. But it was noted that while the inmates and patients of such institutions acquired the disease, the attendants never took it. Not even the nurses. Dr. Goldberger was for a long time puzzled by this. Both nurses and patients ate the same food. The menus were presented to prove it. There was fair variety in the diet. The food was eaten in the same rooms at different tables. Yet there was a large proportion of pellagra among the patients and none among nurses and other attendants. An intensive study of this situation cleared up the mystery. Let Mr. Hendrick tell the story: "The food was brought in on trays and the attendants had the first choice. After they had helped themselves the inmates had to take what was left. These trays, when brought in, contained large quantities of corn products and small quantities of meat. The attendants, having first choice, took the more attractive foods. This left very little meat, milk, eggs and other protein foods for the unhappy lunatics. Thus a number of inmates had no varied diet but ate monotonously day after day the cheap foods that are consumed so largely by the poor people of the South. These were the individuals who developed pellagra."

A similar investigation at an orphanage in Mississippi had a similar result. The disease prevailed among children from six to twelve years old. There were practically no cases among children under six, although pellagra is not uncommon even among nursing infants. There was a strange immunity among boys and girls above twelve. Again investigation showed the cause. The nurses, regarding children under six as babies, gave them babies' food; that is, each one had a cup of milk three times a day. At about the age of six, however, the milk ration was cut down or entirely shut off. The inmates over twelve, being regarded as workers, were given a ration containing a larger proportion of animal food. The children in between, who "caught" pellagra, lived mainly on the established diet of biscuit, corn meal, grits, syrup and the like, with little meat. The relation between food and pellagra was established by these and other experiments. Dr. Goldberger found that pellagra was very much like beriberi in many respects in that it flourished in public institutions. It was found that the disease breaks out in spring and early summer, lapses in the fall, only to reappear in the spring. Dr. Goldberger concluded that by changing the diet of pellagrous children in the fall and winter he could fortify them against the spring recurrences of the disease. He increased the milk supply, gave each child at least one egg at breakfast, multiplied the appearance of meat from once a week to three or four times, and, for the rest, provided beans and peas at the meals in all seasons. The only change in the lives of these children was that they were given a mixed dietary the same as their more fortunate brothers and sisters. "Pellagra disappeared from these orphanages like snow before the sun." Where there were scores of cases every spring and fall there are now none at all.

Like experiments at the Georgia State Sanitarium produced like gratifying results. The country at large has heard about the experiments in the investigation of pellagra upon the inmates of the Mississippi State Penitentiary. Twelve convicts submitted themselves for experiment, upon the promise that they would be pardoned for their devotion to science. They were perfectly willing to stand the menu of corn meal, biscuits, mush, grits, turnip-tops, syrup, sweet potatoes, coffee—no meat, eggs, beans or peas. There had never been a case of pellagra at the Mississippi convict farm. The twelve self-devoted convicts had never had the disease. For ten weeks, from February 4 to April 10, 1915, no change was made in the diet of these men. On the latter date the dietary was changed to that food which makes up the spring and winter dietary of millions of people in the South. The remaining sixty men in the camp were kept upon the usual prison food. Both classes lived in the same hygienic conditions and did the same kind of labor. The

one group ate the experimental food while the other had the usual prison fare. Six of the eleven convicts—one having withdrawn because of another ailment—developed all the symptoms of pellagra. The convicts fed on normal food showed no change. The case seemed proven as to the causativeness of insufficient food in pellagra. Dr. Goldberger, however, called in experts to determine whether the men might not be suffering from other cutaneous diseases. Among these experts was Dr. Martin F. Engman, professor of dermatology in the Washington University Medical School of St. Louis, one of the greatest authorities in the United States. Dr. Engman and the other experts ruled out the possibility of any other disease than pellagra.

While there are those who refuse to accept the results of these experiments as conclusive, and maintain the disease to be an infectious one for which a communicating organism will some day be discovered, medical men, for the most part, are agreed that while Dr. Goldberger may not have shown that a wretched dietary causes the disease, he certainly has shown that a varied diet can cure and prevent it. In point of fact, all the testimony on the subject of the disease is that wholesome feeding on a varied dietary is beneficial. The general opinion inclines to the belief that Dr. Goldberger has proved his point.

Mr. Hendrick concludes that pellagra is fundamentally a social and economic problem. It is caused, apparently, not so much by what people eat, as by what they do not eat. The things they do not eat are the things which they cannot procure plentifully and wholesomely because of their lack of means. Plainly then, there is no way of "mastering" pellagra except by improving the condition of the people among whom it works its ravages. The only way to do this is to raise the standard of living. This can only be done by raising wages. In other words, the real remedy is the abolition of poverty. With that accomplished, pellagra, tuberculosis and many other diseases, to say nothing of vice and crime, will disappear. How are we to raise wages and abolish poverty? There is a way to do it. I refer my readers to "Progress and Poverty," by Henry George.

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The Path to World Peace

By Erving Winslow

THE output of energy in many different forms to construct post-bellum plans for the preservation of peace is so admirably motived that no mere personal opinion ought to be pronounced upon it. Yet it is self-evident, since the plans for the application of this energy are so various and so contradictory, that much of it is being wasted; as it always must be, humanly speaking, when head and heart are driven tandem and are not evenly matched. It is doubtless true that in the great plan of the universe righteous energy somehow is never wasted, but to the limited purview of mankind, when misdirected, it seems to delay real progress more than indifference or active opposition.

One fundamental objection to the formulation of such plans in the United States is, obviously, that as outsiders we are apparently purposing to intrude advice upon those nations that are fighting to establish and secure peace, and, doubtless, making plans to carry out their designs, for assistance in the consummation of which we may or may not be asked. It can hardly be that any group of our citizens really desires to press its plans to enforce peace, unmasked, upon the conquerors!

There is one simple and solid foundation for world harmony, in the laying of which it is in our power to assist by the proper exercise of a home duty whose teaching and example may have a wide effect and a practical influence—the foundation of economic peace, a firm and straightforward movement towards free trade.

We know what it means between the States of this Union. The nations have discovered the vir-

tue of *Zollvereins* in their affiliated or dependent provinces, but the international economic sense has never yet been aroused. The opportunity for its development is coming at the end of the war; such an one as may not recur for centuries.

At first the movement would be naturally adverse. Self-protection of individual nations, the quicker restoration of industry and finance, punitive measures against a former enemy, the effort to prevent the enemy's control of domestic manufacture—all will be urging tariff creations or advancements. The *Spectator*, always a staunch free trade organ, is now claiming that free trade means freedom for England to secure her own trade by discriminating tariffs. In the United States, of course, a reaction is taking place towards protection for the increase of revenue and especially for the benefit of the manufacture of products which have been shut out by the war. National selfishness everywhere, in short, will plead "the present distress" for limitation or prohibition of imports. Yet the fact remains that, if a little patience could be had for the painful readjustment, inevitable in any case when the war ends, all this hasty and futile patchwork might be dispensed with and a solid establishment secured of a lasting world union.

Whatever diplomatic methods may be adopted, whatever arrangements of armies and navies may be established, every Custom House erected will be a fortress, bristling with deadly artillery, outposts for defense and attack, with a crop of officials like that sowed by Agenor's son to grow up into a harvest of warriors, leaders for future armies recruited from their beneficiaries and dependents.

Under-statement and restraint are urged even to gain attention, far more to secure conviction, but those whose hearts have long burned within them concerning this great matter, when at last they speak with their tongues, can hardly moderate the passionate expression of their prayer that some voices like those of the giants of old may be roused to make themselves heard by the great and willing groups, which exist as we know in the nations of the world, effectively to preach the true gospel of peace and good will.

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Lincoln, Joe Shelby and Mexico

By Walter B. Stevens

The punitive expedition after Villa recalls a bit of not generally known history concerning the relations between this country and Mexico. The story is told in the keenly interesting booklet, "Lincoln and Missouri," by Walter B. Stevens, of St. Louis, recently published. Advocates of intervention now will find strong moral support for themselves in the showing that Lincoln favored an expedition into Mexico at the end of our Civil War as an outlet for the activities of restless ex-soldiers of the Confederacy, and of such mustered out Federals as might not be ready to return to the prosaic ways of peace. Less bellicose folk will, of course, deny that President Lincoln could have winked at a programme which had not a little similarity to the scheme of Aaron Burr. As Mr. Stevens tells the story it discloses somewhat of disingenuous opportunism in Lincoln, but there was a little of that, too, in Father Abraham.

WHEN it was evident that the Confederacy was doomed, President Lincoln gave thought to the future of the Missourians who had gone with the South. He realized that there were numbers of these who had cut the ties of home and kindred. With the surrender, many Confederates, especially from Missouri and other border States, would feel that they were men without a country. Houses had been burned. Farms had been laid waste. Property had been confiscated. Emancipations had wrought chaos in labor relations which might require years for adjustment. These conditions, which would confront the soldiers returning to the border States, were dangerous. They might lead to feuds without number and much blood-

shed. Mr. Lincoln talked with his advisers about this situation. He consulted with Frank Blair.

Across the Rio Grande there was revolution. European governments, taking advantage of the Civil War in the United States, were attempting to set up an empire. The United States had protested through diplomatic channels against this violation of the Monroe doctrine. Under Juarez the republican elements of Mexico were fighting against Maximilian, but they were with difficulty holding the northern part of their country. The closing act of Mr. Lincoln's cherished border States policy was to turn the western Confederates toward Mexico as soon as their own cause was lost. And, as on the former occasions noted, Mr. Lincoln looked to Missouri to work out this policy.

Francis P. Blair and Joseph O. Shelby were cousins. Early in 1861, when Blair knew that war was inevitable, he sent for Shelby, who was living in Lafayette County, to come to St. Louis. He exerted all of his powers of persuasion to induce Shelby to remain with the Union. On the strength of his close relations with Mr. Lincoln, Blair assured Shelby of a good commission in the army. Shelby, however, had made up his mind to go with the South.

With the war nearing the end, President Lincoln made Blair the medium of his communication to the western Confederates and Blair communicated the plan to Shelby. Not only was no obstacle to be thrown in the way of Confederates marching to Mexico, but tacit encouragement was to be given. Moreover, it was to be understood that Federal soldiers who had not had enough of the adventures of war might join the Confederates, cross the Rio Grande, join Juarez and help work out the salvation of Mexico.

Shelby led an expedition to Mexico and was not interfered with. But the plan as President Lincoln conceived it was not carried through. In 1877 there was much newspaper talk about an invasion of Mexico by Americans. Affairs in that country had become unsettled. Reports were spread that Americans were organizing under strong leadership to go into Mexico with the view of settling there and insuring stability of government and lasting peace. General Shelby's name was much mentioned as a possible leader in the movement. He was living on his farm in Missouri. Some expression from him was wanted by the northern and eastern newspapers. Through the influence of Major John N. Edwards, who had been on Shelby's staff in the war, the much desired interview was obtained. General Shelby with emphasis put an end of the use of his name in connection with the proposed movement. And then he told of Mr. Lincoln's plan for the western Confederates: He said:

"Through General Frank P. Blair I had received, long before the killing of Lincoln, some important information. It was to the effect that in the downfall of the Confederacy and the overthrow of the Confederates of the East, the Confederates of the West would be permitted to march into Mexico, drive out the French, fraternize with the Mexicans, look around them to see what they could see, occupy and possess land, keep their eyes fixed steadfastly upon the future, and understand from the beginning that the future would have to take care of itself. In addition, every disbanded Federal soldier in the trans-Mississippi department, who desired service of the kind I have indicated, would have been permitted to cross over to the Confederates with his arms and ammunition. Fifty thousand of these were eager to enlist in such an expedition. On my march south from San Antonio to Piedras Negras I received no less than 200 messages and communications from representative Federal officers begging me to wait for them beyond the Rio Grande."

"Do you mean to say, General, that President Lincoln was in favor of the movement you have outlined?"

"I do mean to say so most emphatically. I could show nothing official for my assertion, but I had such assurances as satisfied me, and other officers of

either army had such assurances as satisfied them. There was empire in it, and a final and practical settlement of this whole Mexican question."

"Why did the scheme fail?"

"I will tell you why. Before marching into the interior of Mexico from Piedras Negras, a little town on the Rio Grande opposite Eagle Pass, I called my officers and men about me and stated to them briefly the case. Governor Blesca, the Juarez governor of Coahuila, was in Piedras Negras. I had sold him cannon, muskets, ammunition, revolvers, sabres—munitions of war which I had brought out of Texas in quantities—and had divided the proceeds per capita among my men. Governor Blesca offered me the military possession of New Leon and Coahuila, a major generalship, and absolute authority to recruit a corps of 50,000 Americans. All these things I told my followers. Then I laid a scheme before them and mapped out for the future a programme which had for a granite basis, as it were, that one irrevocable idea of empire. But to my surprise and almost despair nearly the entire expeditionary force were resolute and aggressive imperialists. I could not move them from the idea of fighting for Maximilian. They hated Juarez, they said, and they hated his cause. Maximilian had been the friend of the South; so had the French; so had Louis Napoleon. They would not lift a hand against the imperial government. I did not argue with my soldiers. They had been faithful to me beyond everything I had ever known of devotion, and so I said to them, 'You have made your resolve, so be it!'"

There is strongly corroborative proof of General Shelby's statement that the western Confederates were to be allowed to march away to Mexico. When Lee surrendered, the trans-Mississippi army numbered about 50,000 men. The commander was Kirby Smith. The officers held a council at Marshall, Texas, and decided to march to Mexico. Kirby Smith was to resign and Buckner was to command. But Smith declined to resign and Buckner didn't want to go. Division after division was called to Shreveport and disarmed. Shelby called for volunteers and led 1,000 men to Mexico. At the close of the Civil War, Sheridan was hurried to the Mexican border. Juarez was given moral and material support from the United States side. The French were warned away; Maximilian was defeated, captured, condemned to death and executed on the hill of Queretaro.

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The Laugh

By Harry B. Kennon

NOTHING but the "T" bone of MacPherson's steak remained when I ran up against him the other night in a west side Chicago chop suey. The "T" bone looked good to me, so I ordered another, untrimmed, just like it, from the celestial in attendance. "Mac" filled his pipe.

"Happen to remember my story about the Mattista-Petrocci suicide?" he asked, in his casual way.

"Special sob?" I rejoined, very plainly, showing that the names were only names to me.

"No! Remarkable!" . . . "Mac's" tone was extra dry . . . "Sob-story, as I polished it off, was a cracker-jack, one of those *Francesca da Rimini* affairs, calculated to thrill the smug and make them take notice of things spilling around their own doorsteps—romantic things. A cracker-jack, take my word for it. When the city editor got through with it, it ran like this, headlines eating more space than the story:

"Maria Petrocci and Carlo Mattista, a boarder in the Maxwell street tenement of the Petroccis, were found there dead this morning, asphyxiated. The tragedy was discovered by the woman's husband, Pietro Petrocci, on his return from work at six-thirty. Petrocci was too dazed to give any account of the matter worth recording."

"Just like that," confessed "Mac," "all my pretty

REEDY'S MIRROR

chickens.' Odd you don't recall it; but one gets hardened to such."

My steak appearing, I wrestled with it, leaving "Mac" to tell his story, if he had one to tell. If he hadn't, the steak would suffice. I could afford to wait.

"Just came from the County Hospital," he offered, as a starter.

"Pick up any stuff?"

"Know Father Murphy?"

"Thought he was working the jails."

"Me for witness, Teddy; little Murphy's wherever he's needed."

"Big assignment, that."

"He covers it."

"So you met him at the hospital?"

"Helped him to check poor Petrocci through to purgatory. Guess Pete wop't get any further along —this trip."

"Sob-story chap?"

"Same to a finish. . . . It wasn't a confession, you know, or Murphy would have sent me toddling down the ward in the red-light direction. It was near-next though, and Pete's exit. Left Murphy doing things to him with a bottle of oil he carries in his vest-pocket. . . . Can't sling the dago's lingo."

"Plain MacPherson will do."

"Well, it is about eighteen months since Petrocci came home to find things hell-bent and crooked, and he's been hitting a crooked trail ever since, from what I gather, although he hasn't missed a day's work. The other day an auto-truck steered him in a definite direction. Inefficient driver—incomplete job—hospital. When Pete got so he could chirp, he told Father Murphy he wanted to see me. Seemed to feel connected up with me, somehow—'cause I pumped the insides out of him at the time of the double suicide, I reckon. Well, you know Murphy—"

"Sent for you, of course."

"Phoned. Odd thing about it was, after I got filmed I wasn't in the picture. Wasn't much of Pete to see, except bandages, jaw, and one speaking eye; and though he addressed himself to me particularly, I felt all the time that he was talking through me to the priest."

"Queer sensation," I said, peppering the Chinese-German-fried.

"Damned queer. . . . He started out by saying: 'It was very easy, Mr. MacPherson, very easy to understand, if you did ask me so many questions I couldn't answer. You see, I loved Maria and I loved Carlo—that is what I told you.'"

"Love 'em yet?"

"Yes, yes."

"Carlo?"

"Carlo was my friend in Napoli—we were boys—we dived for money when the ships came in. It was easy to love Carlo."

"Yes, Pete."

"Maria was married to me not yet a year. She was in Halsted street before I came from Italy; she knew the place. She was always laughing. I had all year work, and so—. . . . "He lamped me with that one eye of his," interpolated "Mac," "and I could see the whole thing; his courtship and what came after. I saw Carlo and Maria, both, that morning, you know—handsome animals."

He lighted his pipe again, puffed it a moment, continued:

"Yes, it was easy, very easy. We had two rooms and Maria's cook room—much room. Carlo came from Napoli—my friend. When the ships came in we dived for money. Carlo had no Chicago place to stay. In my place there was room—

much room. Maria laughed. She said his board would make us rich. I got him work in the rolling-mills, where I work night-shift. Carlo worked in the day. So we could board him very well. It was easy—it is often done."

"Maria was always right; Carlo's money made us rich. He did not care to save; he had no wife—no *bambino* coming. You did not know that, Mr. MacPherson, no? . . . Carlo made Maria his bank, like me. She kept our money until we asked for it—it is often done. It was not much. Carlo's was more than mine. It was so in Napoli when we dived for money—when—the—ships—came—in."

"The nurse had to take him in hand then," said "Mac," "and, to tell you the truth, I thought his ship had come in for sure. She knew her business, that nurse. Pete rallied and wanted to talk; I thought—better not, but neither the nurse nor Father Murphy thought it would hurt him to run out his reel."

"And so it was we had work," said Pete, "and no sickness, and pleasant days—one day, like yesterday; to-morrow, like one day—then came that day you know."

"Yes, Pete. Don't talk if it hurts."

"It don't hurt, Mr. MacPherson, nothing hurts, now. . . . I left Maria at half-past five to go to the mill; Carlo would be leaving near six; I would pass him on the way; I did; we met and talked as brothers. . . . It was no luck at the mill that night—a furnace cooled—something—it does not matter—our shift was laid off until midnight. We should report then; I had free time—much time. It was eight o'clock when I was back in Halsted street; I did not hurry, I was free; it was good. I would go back and get Carlo and Maria; we would wake up that sleepy Carlo and go to the movie. I stopped at Bianchi's."

"You know Bianchi's. Mr. MacPherson, Bianchi's at the corner? I stopped there. Bianchi has grapes like grapes of Capri; I would buy some—a *fiesta* for Carlo and Maria. . . . At Bianchi's is more than grapes—ask the police. He is not of Italy, Bianchi; he is Greek; his father's name, God knows! I bought grapes, and, as I paid, I heard one laugh—"

"It was a laugh I knew, Mr. MacPherson, and it was there behind the swinging door between Bianchi's fruit and candy and the hell where rotten women wait. Bianchi has his license—he is not blind. Again I heard one laugh."

"Women do not laugh like that alone. . . . I took my grapes."

"I would not look behind the swinging door—would not believe. I went to my place. There all was still, but Maria's laugh I always hear. I went back to Bianchi's—not in front, by the side where it says "Ladies." Still I came in Bianchi's and still I sat there, not drinking but to hold my place. A girl would have me treat—I gave her grapes—no more. I had a newspaper for excuse. Another came the girl liked better; I sat behind my paper."

"They went away, Carlo and Maria—to the movie. It was blackness there and I could hear Maria's laugh; Carlo is not one to laugh. They came to Bianchi's once more for drink, bought drink to take my place. I watched them go down the alley—go in my door. I saw the light jump in my windows—I saw the light go out—I waited."

"After eleven, I climbed my stairs. It was dark, very dark—my stairs are dark by day—one cracked—nothing. I went into my place; there was light from the street electric, not much. Carlo's bed was empty. There was a band played on Halsted street. It was near twelve—I must be back at the mill by twelve—"

"Yes, Pete."

"There was yet light from outside in Maria's

room—and sleep. What I saw, you saw—"

"Yes."

"I turned on the gas and went back to the mill—all the gas. It was enough. . . . Carlo!—the ship! . . . It is Maria throws the money. . . . She laughs. . . . Ah! . . . Jesu!"

♦♦♦♦

Strophes From Styxside

By Yorick

ROGER BALDWIN

THE austere epitaph
Struck in the reluctant granite,
Which marks my resting-place,
Might be termed fulsome
By weaker mortals.
I know it to be just. . . .
Let it pass.

Louis La Beaume contrived it,
Weighing his words with cunning care.
He was no flatterer
And often lagged behind
Panting and gasping in the rarified atmosphere
Of the glittering Alpine heights
Toward which I climbed.
At times his feet grew cold on what to me
Seemed the lower levels,
But I must still be just.
His fathers came from sunny Languedoc—
And his ancestral memories
Were all of sun-kissed hills
And ripening vines and waving fields of grain,
Where laughing maidens sang the songs of harvest;
The ruddy grape gave luster to their cheeks
And fire to their sparkling eyes.

My backward vision glimpsed
A stern and rock-bound coast
Storm-stressed and barren,
But still the hard-won haven
Of sturdy bands of somber-garmented
Idealists.
Scorning the soft caress of luxury—
And skeptical of joy,
They came to build a better world,
Where Justice, Equity, and Freedom
Might ever hold fair sway—
The scanty soil and rugged wilderness
Tempered their souls to adamant
And flint.
Fish caught in icy waters
And salted with provident far-sightedness,
Custard and whey and hasty-pudding
With the shrapnel-like fruit
Of the huckleberry bush,
Kept alight the hard, gem-like flame
Of life.
There is a sort of chastity
Of the stomach
Which chills the blood and clarifies the vision.
The disciplinary value of mince pie
At breakfast is undoubted.

Three centuries of rigorous routine
Prepared me for my mission.
I came to you consecrated to the Cause
Of Civic Righteousness,
And Social (not sociable) Uplift
As my epitaph so truly says:

"Here lies Our Baldwin,
May his soul be at rest.
Alive he was restless
In his quest of the best.
He fought for the right
As St. George fought the dragons
He fought day and night
For the Smiths and the Spraggons."

Letters From the People

"The Leatherwood God"

Barnesville, Ohio, April 3, 1916.

Editor of Reedy's Mirror:

The publication of Mr. Howells' "The Leatherwood God," is of special interest to the people of this locality, as it was near here that the incidents described took place. It seems rather strange that some author has not used this old incident of the pioneer days as a basis for a novel before this.

The section of the country directly adjoining this town on the south, has always been known as "Leatherwood," and through it come the railroad and the Leatherwood pike to Barnesville. Leatherwood Creek rises here and flows on down to Salesville, the locality of Mr. Howells' story.

Leatherwood has always been a region of mystery and legend. For years the "Leatherwood snake" has been a topic of interest to the inhabitants, many professing to have seen this serpent of amazing size. About ten years ago some men claimed to have at last captured the "Leatherwood snake" and killed it. They had an old snake skin, which they charged the credulous admission to see. It was all a hoax, but furnished much amusement and excitement for weeks, the arguments between doubters and believers waxing warm.

It is not in this section that the Dylks' incident took place, but farther down the valley, near the town of Salesville. About twenty years ago Mr. Richard Taneyhill, a resident of Barnesville, wrote and published a book, "The Leatherwood God," in which he related in detail all the known facts concerning Joseph C. Dylks and the Dylksites. Mr. Taneyhill told the story as it was told to him by the sons and daughters of the participants. The Dylksites have long since died out, and Mr. Taneyhill, their historian, has been dead these ten years.

After reading the first installment of Mr. Howells' novel, I re-read Taneyhill's "The Leatherwood God," and find that Mr. Howells' narrative follows it exactly. The readers of Mr. Howells' story may be certain that he tells the story of Joseph C. Dylks, exactly as it happened.

FRANCIS C. HIBBARD.

Concerning Philanthropy

Cleveland, March 30, 1916.

Editor of Reedy's Mirror:

When our Cleveland Foundation (similar to your Community Trust) was announced, its professed object was to make a "survey of the poor." Some irreverent radicals addressed an open letter to the benevolent banker who conceived the old idea as if it was a new one, and demanded that a "survey" of the rich be made also, especially as to how they get their incomes.

That was a joke, of course, for all who do any thinking on the subject at all know well how large fortunes are acquired and why poverty exists. Library shelves are groaning and bending under the weight of volumes devoted to such questions, and "surveys" can tell us nothing new.

The joke, however, was received coldly, although it is noteworthy that the old humbug of "surveying the poor"

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has not been started in Cleveland. Instead, our philanthropists took up the problem of improving the public schools, a good object in itself, undoubtedly, although it is doubtful if they and their "experts" know any more about it than the most of us do, and it is almost certain to result in "improvement" suited to the ideas of the wealthy class.

These huge philanthropic funds, instead of giving hope of the abolition of poverty, as Mr. Hannigan seems to think, will be a distinct danger. For they do not represent wealth actually produced by the donors; they will be founded mainly on the system of private absorption of land values. In Cleveland, 127 families own one-third of the enormous ground rents. Some live in Europe and some in New York, and, of course, get these monstrous incomes as pure tribute. No service is rendered in return. The philanthropic trust funds will be of the same nature. They will represent legalized power to take a portion of the annual product of wealth merely in exchange for the privilege of using certain pieces of ground which the presence of the community makes valuable. It will be the people themselves, and not the dead philanthropists, who will pay the sal-

aries of the "experts" employed by the Community Trust.

Is it reasonable to suppose that a fund based on an institutional wrong will ever be used to abolish that wrong? And how can poverty be abolished, as Mr. Hannigan so fondly hopes, without eliminating this primary injustice which permits a few to take so much wealth without earning it?

HOWARD M. HOLMES.

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We Are Rebuked

St. Louis, April 3, 1916.

Editor of Reedy's Mirror:

Say, old blithering Bill, go hide your head. You are *hors concours, ausgespielt*, a dead one. You said we have no taste for true drama. Go to, Bill. Have you seen the crowds at the Olympic this week? Attraction, Julian Eltinge. You're licked on a referendum. In atonement you ought to print some of the poems of the German Platen. They should go bully with the admirers of female impersonation.

But, of course, you're a Mick, so you can't say anything about Julian Eltinge, whose real name is Tom Dalton. What do you know about Art anyhow?

SHOOKSPOKE.

In Defence of the Imagists

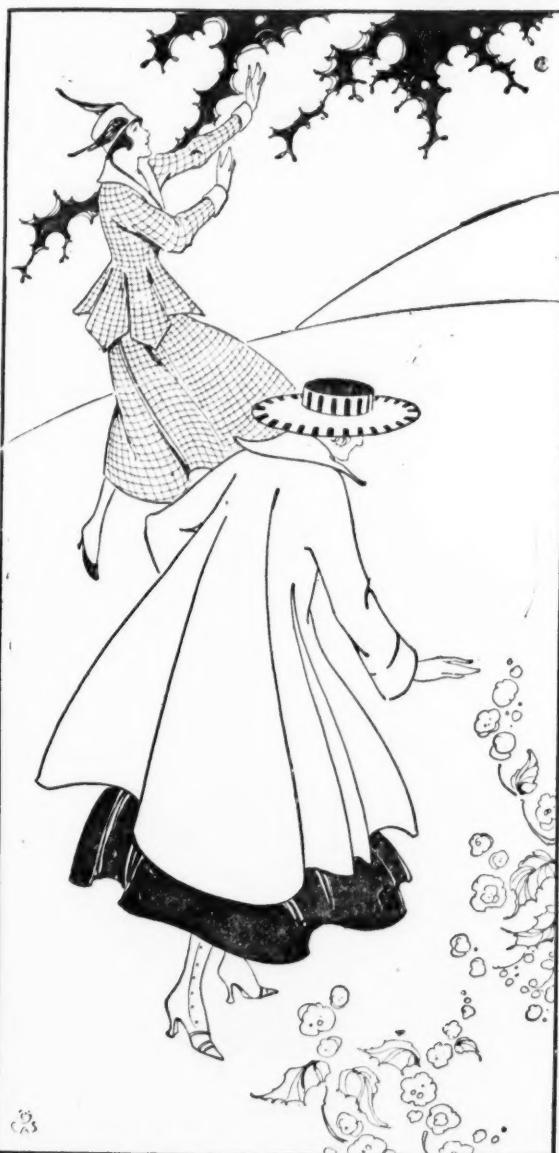
Sappington, Mo., April 1, 1916.

Editor of Reedy's Mirror:

Even to one not in the councils of the Imagists and not on record as subscribing to all of their doctrines by any means, I think the inconsistency and unfair hitting of Mr. John L. Hervey, in his article of Miss Amy Lowell's talk at the Chicago Little Theater on the New Poetry Movement in your issue of March 31st, are apparent.

Throughout two and a half columns of a four column article Mr. Hervey indulges in rather kittenish and esoteric humor, first by means of generalities based upon his private views of what the New Poetry Movement is, second by dwelling at length on the decorations of the theater in which the lecture was delivered, and the personality, manner, delivery, and even the appearance of the lecturer, as though she were a comedienne, instead of a speaker to whose ideas and their expression Mr. Hervey might have been expected to confine himself. Further, he objects to her thorough knowledge of her subject, which he admits she has, and compares her whole exposition of it to a conjurer's game, with striking unreason-

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ableness to the mind of the ignorant reader, who is left throughout the article with an utterly meager idea of what she actually said on the subject. Finally, other matters having been discussed equally as irrelevant as the foregoing, he quarrels patronizingly with the taste of the audience for appreciating the speaker and showing its enthusiasm by applause.

That a theater should be green, that a speaker should be forceful, fluent, and possess a charm, that she should be conversant with her subject, that the subject itself should be generally referred to under a title with a commonly used termination, that a new school in art should be a trifle "intolerant" and energetic in establishing its character and aims before the public, and should repudiate that which is contrary to its purpose, and finally should have gained devoted followers—all these would seem to be Mr. Hervey's arguments for utterly confounding the New Poetry and its adherents. Does not this style of assault absolutely forbid admiration of its method?

There follows after this one of the two paragraphs in the review devoted to legitimate criticism of the work of Imagists, and here Mr. Hervey's at-

tention has been so faulty that he does not remember the name of the author of the poem in question. A number of weaknesses of this kind do not prevent him from insinuating very strongly the impression not only that he "knows a great deal about poetry"—of which he accuses Miss Lowell—but that he knows enough about the New Movement in Poetry to offer a competent and—one cannot escape the feeling—a pontifical estimate of it; and this without supplying us with anywhere near sufficient facts upon which to base his eager and ingenious depreciation of it and all its works.

Much may be forgiven, perhaps, in an article upon a quite revolutionary "school" by a writer so steeped in erudite tradition that were he to bray (which I hope may never happen to Mr. Hervey, as I have enjoyed his writings in the MIRROR for years) he must surely do so in classic language, peppered with foreign terms. But what are we to think when this same writer, who represents those to whom "form" (except when a dead great man like Whitman is in question) is a *sine qua non*, who would pour all poetry into the "perfect thirty-six" of the sonnet, or the quatrain, or the well-known

"blank verse," or something else equally as genteel, falls to complaining because the practitioners of the new poetry have made some effort to formulate a general aesthétique of their craft? It may be true that the new poetry has not plunged literature into a turmoil of robustiousness, but it is certainly misleading to infer from a few examples (I here depend upon Mr. Hervey's impressions as reported) that anything like a large part of the poetry produced by the movement is "pretty-pretty" or "rococo."

No doubt every school or clique of artists or writers, tends after a while to have a bad effect upon the individual, but it is the look-out of the individual to take care of himself in this matter, and it is absurd to therefore condemn the formation of groups even if they go so far as to be called "ists." Up to a certain point the community of interests and the self-criticism arising from such groups are of great importance and even indispensable. That writers so widely scattered as those of the New Poetry Movement should find themselves drawn together by common attributes and aspirations is admirable and a remarkable indication of the vigor of their calling. Emerson, whom

Mr. Hervey is so fond of mentioning, was a "transcendentalist," and Shakespeare was certainly at an early period a "euphuist." Is there anything more "pretty-pretty" than "Love's Labours Lost," or the sonnets themselves? The truth is that in no great era was poetry what Mr. Hervey calls "a spontaneous expression of hearts and souls," sweet as that sounding phrase is to popular romantic illusion. It tended to become more and more imbedded in the weeds and tangle of conventionalism and affectation, which had their roots in healthy and radical innovations established during the early growth of the epoch. If the Elizabethans did not go around "mutually admiring themselves because they were so robust," it was because they had never felt—and overcome—the blighting effect of Puritanism. But that they certainly did boast of other qualities which had been brought into the literature, and talked much of them, can hardly be doubted.

And what warrant has Mr. Hervey for imagining that the poets of the new movement have pledged themselves to -ists and -isms? I have known several, but not one of them, if required to do so, would know exactly where to apply for classification. It is

evident from such expressions, that all through his discussion of the New Poetry Mr. Hervey has endeavored to ridicule and condemn it on the ground that its productions are artificial and forced—in short, that it is nothing more than a mere "cult." No one at all in touch with the movement, however, can deny that the great characteristic of the work it is producing is its freedom from precedent, its universality, its interest in life. Certainly it represents the first note of naturalness and growth in decades of American literature. Mr. Hervey's ridicule, delivered *con pomposo*, has failed, it seems to me, to raise the intended laugh, and will not convince liberal people that a movement of the vitality and impetus of the New Poetry Movement is without permanent significance.

ORRICK JOHNS.

*

The Encyclopedia Britannica Swindle

Editor of Reedy's Mirror:

From your "Reflections" on the cheap mail-order edition of the *Encyclopedia Britannica* it is evident that you are not familiar with the whole story of this publication, which apparently is not generally known, but which I was fortunate enough to hear from the lips of an insider in a London club five years ago. There is no question that the deceit of the false advertising is reprehensible, and there are other phases of the story that do not square with my notions of integrity; but at the same time as a buyer and owner of the higher-price impression, I cannot agree with you that the present low-priced publication is open to objection—in fact, I think it is a splendid fact for the hundred thousand persons who can buy at the present price but could not at the higher.

The story told me in London is to the effect that the *Encyclopedia Britannica* is now substantially the property of an American subscription book salesman, and that the University of Cambridge Press has nothing whatever to do with the sale in this country, and in England the control is but nominal. The tale starts with the tenth edition so-called, brought out by the London *Times*. Two American subscription book agents, very clever men, thoroughly adept in the advertising methods that have made America only too well known in London, got an option to lease the plates of the ninth edition from A. & C. Black and offered the London *Times* a pound a set for the use of its name to further a so-called tenth edition in England (which should consist of the old ninth with a few added volumes to bring it up to date) to be offered at a reduced price (not much more than the present cheap edition here). An enormous amount of advertising space in the *Times* was paid for at regular advertising rates. The money thus realized enabled the *Times* to pay its debts for the time being, but the public reaction against the idea of the *Times'* stooping to that sort of business sealed the fate of the Walters family as owners and managers and resulted in the later transfer to Harmsworth. The thing that galled the Britons was the well known fact that two American book salesmen should be permitted to use an institution like the *Times* to



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Few Restricted Articles Are Exempted.

clean up a million dollars profit for themselves.

The two men fell out and one was suing the other when I was in London, but the one who controlled the million dollars profit had already proceeded to use it to bring off a bigger coup than the first one. The copyright and name of the *Britannica* was bought from the Blacks, and plans laid for an entirely rewritten eleventh edition (though there had been the same half promise through the *Times* that there would be no eleventh edition for a certain number of years, and the same outcry at deceit when it finally was announced). First the American went to Oxford to get a new and more august father for the new enterprise, but Oxford refused. Cambridge accepted. The Cambridge Press was wholly unable to finance a work that cost three quarters of a million dollars to buy and over a million more to rewrite and re-edit, and felt that if their authorities could fully approve the character of the editorial work, the great service to the English-speaking world justified arrangements to finance and advertise the undertaking in much the same way that Morgan financed and managed the shipping trust. The best writers in the

world were engaged and the editorial work was in no way stinted, though it was pushed through in a year and a half where before it had taken ten years or more. It has seemed to me that the speed has shown in the quality, yet the book was one I felt I had to have as soon as it was published. To the American subscription man the real money was in the American market, which was reserved, though the exploitation here was done in the name of the University of Cambridge until that part of the game was stopped and the "Encyclopedia Britannica Company" became the American publishers. The original type was set in Chicago, and only the presswork and binding of the English edition was done on that side of the water.

The sale of the first issue in this country must have reached five million dollars during the past five years, and has been effected by the most scientific, clever, and bold book advertising that the world has ever known. It has seemed to me a pity that it should bear the taint of misrepresentation.

The present cheap edition has apparently been made by photographing the type pages of the original edition so as to reduce the type to about half its

original size, and so halve the cost of manufacture in every particular. It is impossible to get the same clear, clean printing from zinc-engraved plates by the photographic process, and I, myself, much prefer the original, larger size of type, which, even at that, is set solid and on the India paper is none too easy to read. Had I waited for the present cheap edition I should have been without the use of the work for five years. No one would wait till next year to get the best selling novel at 50 cents instead of \$1.35. It is a universal custom to bring out good books in cheaper editions after a certain period of time, and for my part, I cannot see that any injustice has been done to anyone. A new public that otherwise could not have enjoyed the advantages of the work has been opened up. I assume that the same fine Italian hand is behind the management of this cheap edition, and that the mail-order house acts only as distributor. It is said its advertising agency does not handle the *Britannica* advertising, and certain city department stores are acting as joint distributors with them, an arrangement which they themselves could hardly have brought about. And perhaps the University of Cambridge is not even of

ficially aware that the thing has been done. On that point I could not speak absolutely.

The question cannot but arise, however, whether the London *Times* or the University of Cambridge, as public institutions rather than commercial enterprises, were justified in lending their names to that which they could not fully control. It is much like a great man signing an article written by another. The article may in general represent the ideas of the signer; but the element of personal integrity obviously cannot go into the deeper element of style, in which often lies the truest expression of personality. And yet the financing and advertising which the American book agent alone could do was a service to the world which I for one must admire intensely, while deeply regretting the useless thread of deception that has run through it. The mistake, to my mind, was not in bringing out a cheaper edition, but in making in the first advertising the deceptive half-promise that there would be no cheaper edition, a promise that was needless, for silence on that point would have served just as well and those who reflected would have assumed that the custom of the trade in bringing out a cheaper edition would be followed.

SHERWIN CODY.

Chicago, March 31, 1916.

[The promise of the advertising of the first edition was definite: that after a certain time the price would be increased. Now the price is decreased. Moreover, the present advertised "handy" edition is proclaimed as being as good as the former edition. According to Mr. Cody it is inferior. More fraudulency!]

T. R. in Scripture.

38 St. Botolph St., Boston, Mass.

March 29, 1916.

Editor of Reedy's Mirror:

"Yorick's" Strophe on Roosevelt in your issue of March 17 seemed to me so capital that I have read it over several times, both to myself and to others. While I was reading the Bible this morning the verse was still running in my thought. For, although I have not heard of the mighty Theodore claiming to be mentioned in Scripture, of whom else could the Prophet Micah have been thinking when he wrote (Chap. 3, verse 5):

"Thus says the Lord to the Preachers, who swindle my people by gnashing their teeth, and cry 'Peace!'—And make ready to fight those who fill not their mouths!"? (Fenar Fenton's translation.) Does not this describe the hero of the Treaty of Portsmouth?

Yours truly,
KENNETH B. ELLIMAN.

A Cry from the Railroad Clerks

Springfield, Mo., March 31, 1916.

Editor of Reedy's Mirror:

The organized labor employed on the railroads are demanding an eight-hour day, but they mean more pay—\$100,000 per year more pay according to the railroads.

But haven't the organized labor folks on the railroads had two or three boosts in pay, quite recently? They have.

Do they want it all? Isn't it time

Nugents

Most Interesting now is the *Easter Hat*



Large and small boxes of various hues are being carried back and forth and safely guarded as though they were bags of gold. Nestled in among the tissues will be found the Easter Hat, so dear to the heart of milady.

The Nugent hats stand pre-eminent today as to style and individuality.

Inspirations are obtained from the style centers of the world. The latest creations of the eminent style modistes of Paris, and of our own artists.

Prices will be found very moderate, from the chic little hat at \$5.00 to the beautiful imported model at \$50.00.

B. NUGENT & BRO. DRY GOODS CO.,

Broadway, Washington Ave. and St. Charles Street

that the pay of some other railroad employes be increased—the track-walkers, let us say, and the clerks? Who ever heard of a raise in pay for railroad clerks? Nobody. But when pinches come the clerks are the first to be reduced or laid off. The railroad clerk is worse off than the union labor man. The tendency of his pay is steadily downward.

Yet the railroad clerk is supposed to have an education. He has to dress better than the ordinary unionized railroad worker. His pay is a pittance compared with that of the engineer or the conductor. Promotion is slow.

Can't the MIRROR say something for the railroad employe who has not come in for a raise in years? He doesn't organize unions. He doesn't go on strike. Yet he gets no recognition for his patience and his loyalty.

RAILROAD CLERK.

♦♦♦

"Are you of the opinion, James," asked a slim-looking man of his companion, "that Dr. Smith's medicine does any good?" "Not unless you follow the directions." "What are the directions?" "Keep the bottle tightly corked."—*Philadelphia Ledger.*

Bosses Smashed

By the Committeeman

The defeat of Mayor Jost, of Kansas City, for re-election last Tuesday, by the Republican nominee, George H. Edwards, by eight thousand majority, is a bad omen for the Democracy of Missouri. Mayor Jost was by many regarded as almost the personal candidate of Senator Reed. His defeat may possibly stimulate a movement to bring out a candidate against Senator Reed for the nomination.

There is no doubt, however, that this disaster to the Democracy is due more to dissatisfaction with the present State administration than to any dislike for Senator Reed. The Major appointees in Kansas City have made themselves as ridiculous and have been as tyrannous as their fellows in St. Louis. Kansas City, like St. Louis, was affected by revelations at the recent Democratic State Convention. Its saloon element saw how Governor Major threw down the St. Louis saloon element after using it to secure his endorsement for the vice-presidential nomination. The more reputable Democrats were incensed by knowledge of the Governor's not only

turning upon the saloon keepers in St. Louis, but setting his police to inspect the food and drink and take down the names of men and women dining in restaurants and cafes. Both wets and drys in Kansas City turned out to "soak" the Democratic party.

The result of the Kansas City election has given the Democratic leaders or bosses the "collywobbles." None of the candidates for Governor belonging to the old-time factions knows "where he is at." Each one of them feels that the Kansas City result indicates that a Democratic nomination will not be equivalent to an election, especially for any man connected in any way with the present State administration. The election returns might almost be interpreted as a "notice to quit" served upon men like Attorney-General Barker, Secretary of State Roach and Public Service Commissioner Atkinson. Jost's downfall looks like a sign of doom to "the Old Guard."

In this contingency doubtless there will be a recrudescence of the gubernatorial boom for former Governor Folk. Mr. Folk, however, is wary. The returns cannot give him very much confidence in party success throughout the

State. Nevertheless, one need not be a Folk man to see in the Kansas City result that the Democrats would be well advised to nominate for Governor someone utterly divorced from the incompetencies, stupidities, malfeasances and petty persecutorial tactics of the Jefferson City crowd. The leaders, of course, will not want Governor Folk back in the game here. That they can get what they want is, however, not so certain. Mr. Folk is much more likely to get in the race now than he was before, because it really looks as if the people want somebody somewhat inclined to siccancy. But, Mr. Folk is handicapped by his long delay in announcing. The lines are pretty well laid and minds are fairly well made up.

It looks as if Colonel Fred D. Gardner is the "comer." He has been in the battle and his friends have been at work all over the State for a long time. His organization will receive the benefit of all desertions from the organizations of the administration candidates. Kansas City's going Republican will start such desertions. Such a demonstration of administrational unpopularity cannot but help the one open candidate for the gubernatorial nomination who has no connection with the Jefferson City gang. Those Democrats who care for the party more than they care for individuals, will see that Colonel Gardner's nomination would be a means of carrying on a campaign which would not involve too much insistence upon the issue between "wets" and "drys." The land-bank issue could be easily elevated into a greater importance than the prohibition issue. In fact, it really is more important. It holds forth to the rural vote something of definite social and financial benefit. It would not be surprising if there should be a stampede all over the State to Colonel Gardner's support. This is the more important because of the fact that but for the strength of Colonel Gardner, ex-Governor Folk would have shied his hat into the ring three weeks ago. When Senator Reed can lose on a man like Jost in Kansas City, it means that the Senators and other leaders simply cannot "put over" anything on the masses of the Democratic voters. It looks to me as if the Senators and the other big "insiders" are now looking for someone

to save them rather than that any candidate is looking to them to save him. The "kibosh" seems to have been put upon every gubernatorial candidate except one. That one is Colonel Gardner. The Administration's "monkeying" with St. Louis has made it certain Colonel Gardner will carry the town. Ordinarily, a candidate who can carry St. Louis is not helped thereby in the country. But in the present situation, Colonel Gardner will carry St. Louis simply because St. Louis is disgusted by its maltreatment at the hands of the Administration. St. Louis will support Gardner as anti-gang. Reports from every county in the State show a growing Gardner boom. Some practical politicians may try to bring out Governor Folk to beat Gardner, but it would seem to be too late.

The Progressive party has come out flat-footedly for prohibition. Writing this on Wednesday, it does not seem likely that the Republicans will come out against it. The Democrats don't

want to "monkey with the buzz-saw." The only way in which they can avoid it would seem to be by the nomination of a man whose personality and performances make an issue transcending in importance that of prohibition. This man looks to me like Fred Gardner. He is not a "wet" and he is not a "dry." He is simply a business man who has passed a land-bank bill that will authorize the State to lend money to farmers on long time at low interest for the purchase of farms and their improvement. His nomination seems to be the one chance out of fifty for the Democrats to win with their State ticket.

♦♦♦

Coming Shows

"The Mikado," at the Park next week. Moulan is at his best as Ko-Ko and Sarah Edwards has played Katisha under Edward P. Temple, who was with Gilbert and Sullivan at the Savoy Theater for years; she knows it—make-up, business, music. Mabel Wilber should shine as Yum Yum; Josephine Dubois as Peep Bo, while Louise Allen was born for Petti Sing. How Frank Boyle's bass will resound in Pooh Bah, and can't you just see Billy Kent in Nee Ban? Arthur Burckly as Nanki Pooh, George Natanson as the Mikado, Harry Fender as Pish Tush—there's richness. Director Bishop is going to splurge on scenery, costumes fresh from New York and furnishings Japanesque. You can't afford to miss "The Mikado," best of English comic operas.

♦

Next week will be Mabel Wilber's farewell at the Park. She's charmed us for more than eighty-five weeks. Thursday evening will be "testimonial night" and Saturday afternoon there will be a "Wilber children's testimonial matinee."

♦

At the Shenandoah next week Mary Boland will say good-bye to St. Louis for the season in "A Man's World." A strong and finished actress in a splendid play, with the Players rising finely to both star and drama. The success of this week at the Park will be repeated and increased at the Shenandoah.

♦

Evelyn Nesbit, divorced wife of Harry K. Thaw, appears with Jack Clifford at the head of the Columbia Theater vaudeville program next week, beginning with the Monday matinee. They have a unique repertory of songs and dances. Miss Nesbit's life story need not be repeated. She remains, however, a handsome and talented woman. Others on the bill are: Wilber Mack and Nella Walker and their company in the comedy, "A Pair of Tickets;" Stuart Barnes, singing comedian; the Harmony Trio, singers and instrumentalists; Ruby Helder, the girl tenor; Keit and DeMont in "College Nonsense;" William Eggdierre and his posing dogs and horses in "The Act Beautiful," and the Orpheum Travel Weekly.

♦

With a regular Winter Garden runway, Dwight Peoples' "Song and Dance Revue" features next week's program at the Grand Opera House. On the runway pretty and clever girls sing, dance and otherwise perform. Virginia

*Ferguson-McKinney
MADE*

Men's shirts with quality all over and not in spots

You may close your eyes and put your hands on any part of a Ferguson-McKinney Shirt and you will find quality there.

The things that show and the things that don't show in fabrics:

The shirt itself is the strongest evidence

On Sale in Every State in the Union

Made in St. Louis in the factories of

**Ferguson - McKinney
Manufacturing Co.**

There is a story in **GRAPHICS** by Harris Merton Lyon that is better than his "The Weaver Who Clad the Summer"—which was adjudged by the Boston Transcript one of the five best stories of 1915.

This story is called "The Wind in the Lilacs." Read it. A story of every son and every mother.

Published by Wm. Marion Reedy, \$1.00 Net

Luby leads them and Misses Boggs and Courtney do classy dancing. Cameron and O'Connor have a diverting comedy called "Hired and Fired." Tudor Cameron, well known locally, has a monologue. Carl Emmy and his pets, a happy dog show; Thomas P. Jackson, in "A Letter from Home;" Garcinetti Brothers, European hat-throwers; Coy DeTrickey, comedienne; Kenny and LaFrance, singers and dancers; Kimball and Kenneth, singers to the banjo; Phil LaToska, the talkative juggler, and new animated and comedy pictures complete the bill.

♦

"The Aryan" with William S. Hart, supported by Bessie Love, Louis Glau, Charles K. French and others, is the Ince number among the Triangle plays showing next week at the American.

The D. W. Griffith number is "Little Meena's Romance," a story of life among the Pennsylvania Dutch. Dorothy Gish and Owen Moore (Mary Pickford's husband) appear in this film—"An Oily Scoundrel," announced for last week but delayed, will be seen, with Fred Mace in the leading part. Roscoe Arbuckle with Betty Gray and Al St. John appear in the other Keystone number, "His Wife's Mistake."

Louise Pellman, wife of Director Hans Loebel, a favorite here for fifteen years in German plays, will appear as the gay cadet, *Kurt von Winterstein*, in "Love Manoeuvres," at the Victoria, Sunday evening. She is an actress, full rounded and complete, and her associates will support her with an art warmed by affection.

Marts and Money

Wall Street is floundering in doubts and perplexities day after day. It doesn't know which way to turn; it has lost faith, apparently, even in its recognized oracles, most of whom still preach the philosophy of optimism and prolonged prosperity. It can find no comfort in the more or less brilliant doings in some of the war, metal and munition certificates; in fact, it quite dislikes them at the present time. It strongly suspects that they are perpetrated for the express purpose of staving off a serious sinking spell all through the list. A queer sort of affairs. Nothing faintly resembling it has been seen since the 1893-97 period. There is a plenitude of news items of the right kind; they come from all parts of the country. Money markets remain in a helpful shape; the copper, lead, zinc and steel industries are enjoying an almost boisterous prosperity; the demand for investment securities is the liveliest in years; the favorable trade balance is mounting right along, and railroad earnings reflect a remarkable turn for the better in the transportation business.

Stock Exchange values continue irresponsive, however. They fail to improve to any marked extent even on the quite frequent announcements of resumptions or increases of dividend payments. The other day the American Beet Sugar Company declared a 6 per cent annual dividend, payable in quarterly installments, after a barren interval of two years. What was the immediate result? A drop of \$3 in the price of the shares. Several copper and other metal companies raised their rates of disbursements in recent weeks, and several others are expected to do so in the near future. But the congregation of Mammon-worshippers refuses to look cheerful and to play the game in the wonted bold ways. It prefers to nourish its mood of apathy and distrust with considerations of discouraging reports or possibilities. For the moment, it is deeply concerned about the controversy between the railroad companies and striking successes in the adjustment of their hundreds of thousands of employés. The idea exists that the dispute may lead to disastrous consequences. It's not recalled, seemingly, that in recent years arbitration has achieved similar difficulties. It's not the least likely, I take it, that the Federal Government will stand idly by and permit the precipitation of a national and ruinous strike. It will take effective steps, at the right moment, to force a settlement by an appeal to reason and humane considerations.

Note is taken, also, in Stock Exchange purlieus, of the submarine and blockading programs of the principal belligerent governments. It is perceived that the problems inherent therein are various and thorny, and that they yet may create a good deal of trouble, both politically and economically. It doesn't appear, though, that timorous conjectures in respect to these matters are causative of important selling for either long or short account. The prevalent disposition is to await definite developments before taking action one way or the other. Quite a stir was occasioned, the other day, on intimations that it had been



Household Preparedness is essential to domestic happiness

We have on exhibit in Booth 75 of the
Gas Section of the

National Household Gas and Electric Show

One of the greatest essentials to
domestic happiness. Go and see it.

This show will be held at the Coliseum

April 3d to 15th, 1916

Tickets for admission can be obtained at our office.

THE LACLEDE GAS LIGHT COMPANY

Olive and Eleventh Streets

Your Gas Bill carries a coupon of money value—Use it

decided on the part of the *Entente* Powers to prevent all imports, for several months, of merchandise not really required in the prosecution of the war. In all probability, the rumors to that

effect originated in the superheated imaginations of press correspondents, or were propagated with a view towards affecting prices in the markets for securities and commodities. It is hard,

if not impossible, to conceive that England, for instance, could contrive to keep going for any length of time without imports of cotton, grain, sugar and numerous textile manufactures from the

United States. There seems to be substantial reason, though, for believing that the British, French and Italian governments are determined to restrict, or to prohibit altogether, the importation of articles commonly designated as luxuries.

New York bankers and brokers report that the flotation of the \$75,000,000 Canadian Government 5 per cent bonds proved a most gratifying success, and that the securities are already quoted at figures exceeding the subscription prices. The favorable significance of this bit of news was emphasized by a further improvement in the market value of the Anglo-French 5 per cent bonds, which were retailed at 98 some months ago. For these securities the current quotation is 95½; the recent low notch was 93½. Since the securities bear the joint guaranty of the British and French governments, an additional appreciation in their value would not surprise. Some financiers in the East declare their belief in a rise to 100 in the next two months.

The quotations for bonds of domestic origin show no material variations; in most cases, they indicate fractional declines. Trading has fallen off considerably, despite the occasional outbursts of excited speculation in issues which are thought to be destined, for some reason

or other, to be worth substantially more before the close of 1915. For typical investment bonds the demand is quiet but steady, and sufficient to take care of the unremitting liquidation for foreign account. The British Government and bankers are said to be fully determined to bring about a satisfactory rectification in their international trade balances by continuing to dispose of large amounts of American, Canadian, Argentine, Brazilian, and other foreign securities in systematic fashion. The sum total of liquidation, thus far, can scarcely be less than \$2,000,000,000. Bearing this in mind, we shall find it easy to account for the firmness of the rate for sterling exchange since the first of the year. The present quotation is \$4.76½; in the opinion of New York's international bankers, this figure is practically equivalent to \$4.8665, that is, the normal level, and therefore prohibitive of additional shipments of gold from London to New York. In support of this theory, it is pointed out that shipping and insurance rates are much higher at present than they were in peace times.

The quotations for the stocks of oil companies in Mexico respond very readily to encouraging intelligence concerning the operations of the punitive expedition to Mexico. It is generally taken for granted that the next twelve months should bring a semblance of political order and of economic recovery south of the Rio Grande. May there be no disappointment in this respect! The quoted value of American Smelting & Refining shares has been but slightly benefitted, so far, by the Mexican developments. None of the smelting properties of the company of the southern country is in operation at the present date.

Some of the leading industrial corporations in the United States are commendably engaged, these days, in efforts to accumulate large surplus funds, for the purpose of being less dependent upon loan markets and less exposed to the hurtful effects of an industrial setback after the close of the European conflict. The United States Steel Corporation is credited with a safety fund of \$130,000,000 at the end of 1915; the Bethlehem Steel Company with one of \$15,000,000; the General Electric Company with one of \$28,000,000; the Midvale Steel Company with one of \$20,000,000, and the Kennecott Copper Company with one of \$33,000,000. The last annual report of the American Telephone & Telegraph Company disclosed nearly \$30,000,000 in cash and securities. Since the end of 1915, every one of the corporations mentioned has made further and quite material additions to its surplus funds. By December 31, 1916, the United States Steel Corporation should have a "rainy day" pile of something like \$220,000,000.

The 1915 statement of the Western Union Telegraph Company discloses a remarkably mended state of finances, as a result, mostly, of the European war. Total earnings were \$51,171,000, against \$46,264,000 for 1914; the total income, \$11,503,000, against \$6,708,000; the surplus, \$10,167,000, against \$5,371,000, and the final surplus, after dividends and credit adjustments, \$5,351,000, against

MILITARITIS

This is a very prevalent disease just now in our country, and many good people are "seeing red" without really knowing why!

To avoid this annoying condition read

THE PHOENIX

edited by Michael Monahan, a monthly magazine which is sane on War and loyal to the American Idea. A few expert opinions:

The Argonaut:

All discerning persons read THE PHOENIX.

Rochester Post-Express:

To our thinking, quite the most satisfying periodical of its kind.

San Francisco Chronicle:

As full of paradox as Bernard Shaw, but whatever his faults, he is never dull.

Chicago Evening Post:

One of the few editors whose personal moods it is in the least possible to share.

The Scoop (Chicago):

A writer of compelling force, a wit, a satirist, a high thinker, a scholar, a passionate apostle of freedom, protesting forever against the bondage of convention.

SUBSCRIPTION

ONE DOLLAR A YEAR
To Canada and Foreign
Countries, \$1.25

South Norwalk, Connecticut

REEDY'S MIRROR

REEDY'S MIRROR
Syndicate Trust Building
ST. LOUIS

March 4, 1916.

My dear Dinks:

The enclosed letter will show you that it pays to advertise—especially in the Mirror. The fellow who wrote this letter was never in St. Louis and knows of your slowest laundry only by what he has read in the Mirror.

I haven't seen you in some time but I take it for granted that you are in your usual good health and partaking of all the joy of life.

Very sincerely yours,

WILLIAM MARION REEDY.

HOTEL WINDEMERE BY-THE-SEA

Santa Monica, California

Feb. 29th, 1916.

Dear Billy:

I leave here to-day and am sending by Wells Fargo a package of soiled linen which I addressed to myself care of you. Wish you would turn this over to Dinks Parrish's Laundry as soon as it is received.

Hastily,

H. M. LYON.

Our Business Depositors

expect us to co-operate in their day-to-day financial affairs.

They avail themselves of our facilities for collecting business information. They use our advice in business problems. They ask for credit accommodations as part of the service they know we render.

Are you one of them, or shall we send a representative to see you?

Mississippi Valley Trust Co.
N. W. Cor. FOURTH and PINE

\$1,382,000. The percentage earned on the \$99,756,000 stock was 10.19 per cent, against 5.38 in 1914. George Gould & Brothers must feel somewhat sore, I imagine, when they contemplate the present prosperous condition of the Western Union and compare it with the straitened condition the company was in six or seven years ago, before they relinquished control. In 1908, the stock of the company sold at 41; the current

price is 91. The yearly dividend rate has been raised from 3 to 5 per cent.

Finance in St. Louis.

They have a pretty good market on Fourth street. It compares favorably with that in New York. Prices are well maintained in almost all the conspicuous cases. And the upward tendency still is observable in them most of the time. Investors and speculators are on

the alert for the promising things, the elevated quotations notwithstanding. Their orders constitute anything but a negligible item in the daily totals of bank exchanges at the Clearing House. There's genuine optimism in the atmosphere of the St. Louis down-town district. That much should be plain enough to every competent student of affairs. Inspiration is derived from the forward course in all important directions; from the "boom" in lead and zinc industries, for example. The quotation for lead is the highest in many years, and spelter, the commercial form of zinc, still is selling at figures materially above the averages of the ante-bellum times. There's firmness, also, in the cotton market, the fortunes of which are at all times closely linked up with the general welfare clause of the economic gospel of St. Louis.

That's why local bonds and stocks are looking better, nowadays, to the investing and speculative fraternity, than they have looked in quite a long while. About a year ago, Wagner Electric Manufacturing was quoted at 125; it's worth 250 to-day. Nearly two hundred shares were gobbled up in the past week at steadily rising prices. The net improvement amounted to \$27. There's lots of fine talk about the company's earnings and dividend prospects. American Central Insurance Company stock, which could be bought at prices substantially below 100 not long ago, is held at 140 at this moment, owing to the announcement that the Commercial Assurance Co., of London, has acquired, or is about to acquire, control of 52 per cent of the outstanding stock at \$142.50 per share. The American Central was incorporated in 1853. The Commercial Union is reputed to be the greatest general insurance corporation in the world, with home office assets of over \$130,000,000.

The American Credit Indemnity Co. has resolved to resume payment of quarterly dividends at the old rate of 2 per cent, or 8 per cent per annum. The renewal of financial affluence is the direct effect of the restoration of prosperous conditions among the merchants and manufacturers. Dividend distributions were suspended just about a year ago. Some Independent Breweries 6s were transferred, lately, at 51.50, and some of the first preferred stock at 8.62½ and 8.75. Six shares of Laclede Gas preferred brought 99 and 100. Last January sales were made at 94 and 95. Six thousand dollars of the company's first mortgage 5s were sold at 101.75; this price, too, denotes a nice betterment, when compared with the minima of 1915 and 1914. Seventy shares of Union Sand & Material were taken at 76 and 75.50; \$3,000 Missouri-Edison Electric 5s at 101.50, against 99 in March, 1915; \$7,000 St. Louis City 4s, of 1928, at 101.37½, against 99½ in February, 1915; ten Ely-Walker D. G. first preferred at 104, against 100 a year ago, and fifty Kinloch Long-Distance T. at 145, the best price in several years.

More than one hundred shares of Bank of Commerce were transferred at 102.50 and 103. These figures connote new high points for the present upward movement. For other prominent bank shares quoted prices show little or no changes.

Latest Quotations.

	Bid.	Asked.
Merchants-Laclede Nat.	287 1/2	.....
Nat. B. of Commerce	103 1/2	104 1/2
Third Nat. Bank	234	.....
Mississippi Valley Trust	295	.....
Mortgage Trust	139	.....
Mortgage Guarantee	139	.....
United Railways com	5	.....
United Railways pfd	17 1/2	18
United Railways 4s	61 1/2	62 1/2
St. L. & Sub. 5s	78 1/2	.....
Union Depot 6s	102 1/4	102 1/2
E. St. L. & Sub. pfd	49	.....
E. St. L. & Sub. 5s	90	.....
Alton, Granite & St. L. 5s	82	83
Laclede Gas pfd	100	101
Kinloch L.-D. Tel. stock	144	146
Kinloch L.-D. Tel. 5s	95	.....
K. C. Home Telephone 5s	92	92 1/2
K. C. Home Tel. 5s (\$500)	92	92 1/2
K. C. Home Tel. 5s (\$100)	93 1/2	94
Toledo Home Telephone	95	.....
Missouri Edison 5s	100 1/2	.....
Am. Credit Indemnity	105 1/2	270
Am. Central Insurance	.....	35 1/2
St. L. Cotton Compress	34 1/2	35 1/2
Union Sand & Material	75 1/2	76
Ely & Walker com	115	120
Ely & Walker 2d pfd	81	82 1/2
International Shoe com	92	92 1/2
International Shoe pfd	109	.....
General Roofing com	155	.....
General Roofing pfd	103	.....
Hydraulic P. Brick com	1 1/2	4
Hydraulic P. Brick pfd	20	.....
Granite Bi-Metallic	68 1/2	70
Independent Brw. 1st pfd	8 1/2	9 1/4
Independent Brew. 6s	51 1/2	.....
National Candy com	6 1/2	.....
National Candy 2d pfd	75 1/2	77
Chicago Ry. Equipment	90	.....
Wagner Electric	.....	250
City of St. L. 4s (1918)	100 1/4	.....

Answers to Inquiries.

Reader, El Paso, Tex.—Whether or not Greene Cananea Copper might be a good purchase for a speculation at 47 or 48, is hard to say. Much depends on the market position of insiders. The higher dividend rate seems well "discounted" by this time. Of course, there may be another temporary "spurt" before long, say to about 50 or 51. On March 9, sales were made at 53 1/2. Cannot advise purchases unless you can afford to run exceptional risks or to get "stuck" for a year or two. Symptoms of a coming reaction in the copper trade are not altogether wanting. Peace in Europe would cause a sharp decline in the metal's value. That's certain, but I doubt if the 16 cents' level would be reached.

L. C. A., Leavenworth, Kan.—(1) If you wish to add to your holdings of United States Steel preferred, await a favorable opportunity. There may be a drop to 110 in the event of a general downward movement. (2) Chicago & Northwestern preferred, an 8 per cent stock, is a little too high at 170. Would not recommend purchases, therefore, except in case of a decline to, say, 160. The stock is closely held, and regarded as a first-class purchase for people of capitalistic means, who can feel satisfied with less than 4 1/4 per cent on their money.

Investor, St. Louis.—National Candy first preferred is a commendable "buy" for investors willing to assume a little risk. At 97, the present price, the net yield is 7.20 per cent. The stock is not active, as a rule, and doesn't fluctuate sharply. The low point last year was 96; the high point, 99.

Financier, Kansas City, Mo.—Your investment in New Haven & Hartford certificates, made at 78, should turn out all right if steadfastly adhered to. The company has undoubtedly "turned the corner," and should be able to resume dividend payments by Jan. 1, 1918, judging by prevailing prospects. You would be justified in increasing your holdings in case of a relapse to 57 or 56.

♦♦♦

Statement of the ownership, management, circulation, etc., required by the Act of Congress of August 24, 1912, of Reedy's Mirror, published weekly at St. Louis, Mo., for April 1, 1916.

State of Missouri, } ss.
City of St. Louis } ss.

Before me, a notary public in and for the State and city aforesaid, personally appeared William Marion Reedy, who, having been duly sworn according to law, deposes and says that he is the editor and owner of Reedy's Mirror and that the following is, to the best of his knowledge and belief, a true statement of the ownership and management of the aforesaid publication for the date shown in the above caption, required by the Act of August 24, 1912, embodied in section 443, Postal Laws and Regulations, to-wit:

1. That the names and addresses of the publisher, editor, managing editor and business manager are:

Publisher, William Marion Reedy, 1409—915 Olive street, St. Louis.

Editor, William Marion Reedy, 1409—915 Olive street, St. Louis.

Managing Editor, William Marion Reedy, 1409—915 Olive street, St. Louis.

Business Manager, J. J. Sullivan, 1409—915 Olive street, St. Louis.

2. That the owner is:

William Marion Reedy, 1409—915 Olive street.

3. That the known bondholders,

mortgagees, and other security holders owning or holding 1 per cent or more of total amount of bonds, mortgages, or other securities are:

None.

WILLIAM MARION REEDY,
Editor and Owner.

Sworn to and subscribed before me
this 25th day of March, 1916.
(Seal) MARIE GERST,
Notary Public.

My commission expires March 11, 1918.

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of the founding of the first Savings Bank in the United States. The first charter was granted in 1816, on December 13, to a bank in Boston. It was a period in American history when a wise prudence in saving and spending prevailed.

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Aside from the personal benefits derived from the practice of thrift, the people of America can render no greater service than by conserving a portion of their income. The ever increasing demand for capital to develop our resources must, to a large degree, be supplied through these channels. The growth of the nation depends largely upon the thrift of her people.

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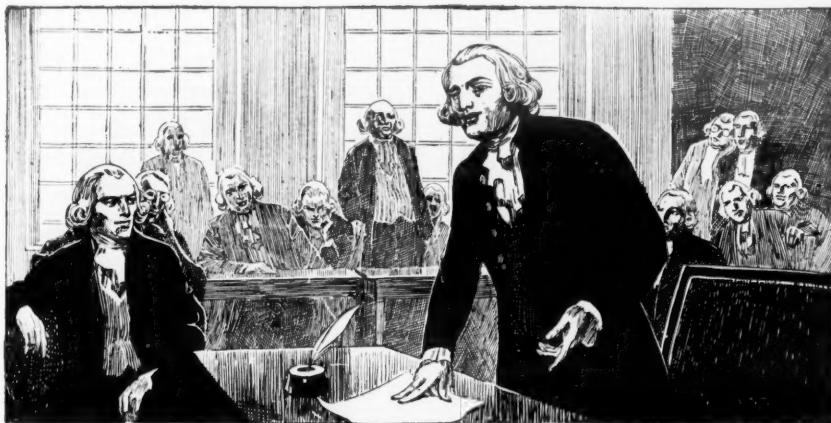
Bess—Did the groom act scared?

Belle—Not a bit! He had never been married before!—Town Topics.

♦♦♦

When passing behind a street car look out for the car approaching from the opposite direction.

REEDY'S MIRROR



"FRAMERS OF THE CONSTITUTION OF THE U.S.A." NO. 3

Alexander Hamilton—"Father of American Credit"

DANIEL WEBSTER says of Hamilton: "He smote the rock of National resources and abundant streams of revenue gushed forth; he touched the dead corpse of public credit and it sprung upon its feet." No man did more to build the Constitution of the United States than did Hamilton. He took a prominent part in every debate, and worked indefatigably on all the important committees. His genius, individuality and daring foresight are indelibly stamped upon every clause of our National Law—the law under which Americans are guaranteed for all time Religious, Commercial and Personal Liberty. During Hamilton's lifetime he used his great influence to encourage and protect the brewing industry. Among all the Fathers of the Republic none knew better than he that hon-

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New Books Received

GREEN MANSIONS by W. H. Hudson. New York: Alfred A. Knopf; \$1.50.

A romance of the tropical forest, with a foreword by John Galsworthy. Mr. Hudson has a tremendous reputation in England among a coterie fit though few. His book, "The Purple Land," about South America, is spoken of in this elect circle as reverently as if it were a classic. Mr. Galsworthy rates Hudson high.

THE HEART OF THUNDER MOUNTAIN by Edfrid A. Bingham. Boston: Little, Brown & Co.; \$1.35 net.

An unusual novel of the west, wherein the woman does the wooing.

THE PHILOSOPHY OF PAINTING by Raley Husted Bell. New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons; \$1.25.

A careful study of the development of the art of painting from prehistoric to modern times. Data heretofore widely scattered are assembled and clearly presented, and misleading—often false—contentions are dispelled with sound material, logical conclusions and vital theories. Well written.

WORLD PEACE by John Bigelow. New York: Mitchell Kennerley; \$1.50 net.

The theory of a retired United States army major for the abolition of war. He premises that war cannot be abolished in our present civilization, and then outlines a World State, which would make world peace possible. There is a bibliography and index and copies of numerous official documents.

THE SHEPHERD OF THE NORTH by Richard Ammerle Maher. New York: MacMillan & Co.; \$1.35.

An interesting story of the Adirondack country, the central figure of which is a bishop.

MARY ALLEN by Eleanor Marvin. Garden City, N. Y.: Doubleday-Pace; \$1.25 net.

The career of a sunny-hearted girl who was interested in art and home. Entertaining reading for girls from 12 to 20.

BABETTE by F. Berkeley Smith. Garden City, N. Y.: Doubleday-Pace; \$1.35 net.

A romance of France before the war, of apparently more than ordinary excellence. Berkeley Smith knows his France, has written a good book about Paris.

HER HUSBAND'S PURSE by Helen R. Martin. Garden City, N. Y.: Doubleday-Pace; \$1.35 net.

An extravagant Southerner marries a miserly Northerner—fun follows.

MARKETING AND FARM CREDITS. Madison, Wis.: National Conference on Marketing and Farm Credits; \$1.00.

A collection of papers read at the third annual session of the Conference in Chicago last November, treating of the organization and co-operation of agricultural interests; the standardization, warehousing and marketing of

farm products; local and terminal elevators; financing the farm industry; rural credit and aids to land purchase and need of legislation.

FORKED LIGHTNING by Kebble Howard. New York: John Lane Co.; \$1.25 net.

The novelization of the author's comedy, "A Green Flag," which proved such a success in London last summer. It relates the ludicrous situations in which a jealous wife involves herself and all her friends.

URNS AND MOVIES by Conrad Aiken. New York: Houghton-Mifflin Co.; 75c net.

Dramatic tales of vaudevillians in exceptionally excellent verse. Lyric intensities of ecstasy and enchantment. Here's a true singer.

THE APOSTLE by Paul Hyacinthe Loysen. Garden City, N. Y.: Doubleday-Pace; 75c.

The fifteenth volume of the Drama League's series of plays, translated from the French by Barrett H. Clark, with an introduction by George Pierce Baker.

STAMBUL NIGHTS by H. G. Dwight. Garden City, N. Y.: Doubleday-Pace; \$1.25.

Fifteen short stories of Turkish life. One of the best volumes of short stories issued in many years. The Arabian Nights modernized. Humor and oriental color and a touch of the tragic.

EXILE by Dolf Wyllarde. New York: John Lane Co.; \$1.35 net.

Intrigue and adventure in an Indian outpost of British civilization.

ALICE DEVINE by Edgar Jepson. Indianapolis: Bobbs-Merrill; \$1.25 net.

A thrilling detective story by the author of "Pollywood."

DIET FOR CHILDREN by Louise E. Hogan. Indianapolis: Bobbs-Merrill; 75c net.

A common-sense guide to all practically concerned in the upbringing of children; a discussion of what foods to give children and when, with various recipes and menus.

ONLY RELATIVES INVITED by Charles Sherman. Indianapolis: Bobbs-Merrill; \$1.25 net.

Another funny story by the author of "He Comes Up Smiling."

TIPPICANOE by Samuel McCoy. Indianapolis: Bobbs-Merrill; \$1.25 net.

A historical novel of the region of the Indiana wilderness and the battle of Tippecanoe.

MISS AMERICAN DOLLARS by Paul Myron. Milwaukee: Mid-Nation Publishers.

A romance of travel. The scene is laid in Albania just before the Great War, and there are many references (said to be historically accurate) to events and personages.

MY MARIONARY by Robert Carlton Brown. Boston: Luce & Co.

Fanciful free verse that almost anyone can enjoy.

SONGS AND SATIRES by Edgar Lee Masters. New York: MacMillan & Co.; \$1.25.

Another volume of verse by the author of "Spoon River Anthology."

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